

Howland Wood - Curatorial

Gibbs, Howard Dunleath
[Pittsburgh, PA]

(f1)
1919-1929

Front tab of original folder,

Gibbs R.D.,

1923-1928

5401 Black Street

Pittsburgh, Penna.

February 7 1919

Mr. Howland Wood,

New York City:

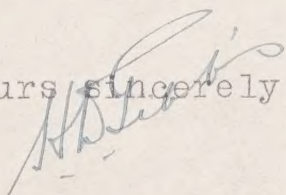
Dear Sir:

Beg to acknowledgg receipt of your kind favor of the 3rd and am very glad to hear that you still have one or two specimens of the Coal Money. Am enclosing herewith \$5.00 and would ask that you send me the nicest one of the two. When sending it on please advise if the other one is exactly alike or if it is a different size or kind. Believe there is another party here in town who can use it after they see mine. Have you any other odd coins you care to dipose of? Am particularly interested in all odd curious coins. Have you any duplicates of the West Indies coinage.

Want to thank you for your infromation regarding the 8 Daler Plate. Want one very much but suppose I will never get it as I have no means other than a moderate salary to spend for coins and as I have a family you can understand that \$500.00 coins are out of my reach.

With best regards and thanks for your kind invitation to visit you when in New York City, beg to remain

Yours sincerely,



PS If you ever get out this way trust you will honor me by making my home your headquarters during your stay. Would consider it a great pleasure to show you my collection and entertain you.

7104 Upland St.,
Homewood, Pgh. Pa.,
Jan. 31, 1923.

Howland Wood, Act. Sec.,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, Between 155th & 156th Sts.,
New York City, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Was pleased to receive your favor of
January 16th and would consider it a privilege, indeed,
to belong to your society.

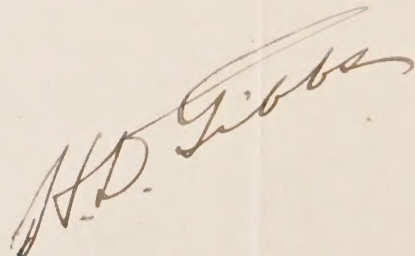
There is just one question I would like
to ask, however, before forwarding check and that is,
whether members have the privilege of using the society
library. That is, members not living in New York City.

It would be of inestimable value to me
to be able to obtain books on the Chinese and other
Oriental issues, India, etc. which are entirely beyond
my means from a purchasing standpoint.

Will be pleased to hear from you as to
whether this privilege is extended to associate members.

With kindest personal regards, beg to
remain,

Very truly yours,



HDG-CBG.

February 2nd, 1923

H. D. Gibbs, Esq.
7104 Upland Street
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

In reply to your letter of January 31st, I beg to advise that out-of-town members have the use of our library to a certain extent, but as it is a working library it is impossible to send out many books at one time. Also, certain books which are being constantly called upon naturally cannot be sent away from the library. But, undoubtedly, such books on Chinese and Oriental coins as may be desired, can be loaned for a short time when not in use here.

It is our aim to render the best service possible to our members, and to accommodate students whenever we can.

Very truly yours,

Acting Secretary & Curator

HW/E

March 3rd, 1923.

Mr. H. Dunleath Gibbs,
7104 Upland Street,
Homewood, Penn.

Dear Sir:-

I am enclosing herewith a letter addressed to you at Pittsburgh, which was returned to us. This is the notification of your election to associate membership, and I believe explains itself. We will be glad to welcome you among our members.

Very truly yours,

Curator and Acting Secretary.

G. L. Ashby

A. L. ASHBY
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW
P. O. BOX 1236
PITTSBURGH, PA.

Mar. 16, 1923.

Mr. Howland Woods,
Curator and Acting Secretary,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, between 155th & 156th Sts.,
New York City, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Woods:-

I received your favor of February 20th also your letter of March 3rd. The reason this letter did not reach me is that my address is P. O. Box 1236 instead of 1256. Whether this was a typographical mistake on my part or from your end I do not know.

I consider it an honor to be enrolled in the membership of your society and I sincerely trust that the advantage will be mutual.

You stated that it is possible for members to draw from the library certain books which are not in constant demand.

Would you allow me the liberty of outlining just what I want, and in writing you, please consider me as also writing for Geo. F. Marlier, another member here in Pittsburgh. We are both interested in the same things and the books can be sent to either one of us.

At the present time, we are very deeply interested in the classification of the ancient, mediaeval and especially the modern Chinese issues.

For classification up to the last dynasty we have been using Brudin's. Where we are greatly handicapped is in the modern issues and where to locate the mints, that is, the character as to the right on the obverse and in some cases, character both on the left and right of the hole.

Can we obtain a book or books which will enable us to classify these modern issues and sort them according to mints, or if you do not have anything of this kind which you could forward to us, it would be considerable help if you would even tell us what books we want.

A. L. ASHBY
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW
P. O. BOX 1236
PITTSBURGH, PA.

Mr. Howland Woods.

- 2 -

Mar. 16, 1923.

I understand that Ramsden on modern Chinese is very good, but we are really at a loss to know just what to ask for. Any books at all on the question of Chinese or Oriental will be of interest.

The other subject on which we are desirous of help is the Native Indian issues, something which would enable us to classify the thick, crude dumps.

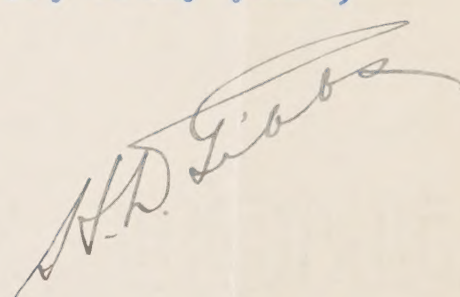
Trust you will pardon the liberty I am taking in bothering you about this matter but to us here it is a matter of extreme interest, and if you can help us to help ourselves, we will sincerely appreciate it.

I do not suppose there is any way in which I can be of service to you personally or to the society, but should an occasion ever arise on which I could be of service to you, I would be glad to have you call on me.

Do not suppose there is such a thing as an index or catalogue to the society collection and do not know whether there are any donations which could be made in the form of specimens from ~~my~~ ^{my} collection.

Will be pleased to hear from you at your convenience.

Very truly yours,



HDG-CBG.

March 21st, 1923

H. D. Gibbs, Esq.
P.O.Box 1236
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Replying to your letter of March 16th, we have a number of books which might be of use to you. Probably, the best all-round book is J. Stewart Lockhart's Currency of the Farther East, in three volumes. If you cannot obtain it in Pittsburgh, we can send you our copy for a limited time.

The best book on Ancient Chinese coins is the British Museum Catalogue by Terrien de la Couperie. Another useful book is the Stewart Lockhart Collection of Copper Coins, by Lockhart himself.

Of the coins of the Chinese Republic, there is a book by Giuseppe Ros.

Ramsden's book on the modern struck coins is also good.

For Japan, Munro's is the best.

There are dozens of books on Indian coins. No one book takes more than a limited field. Two books by William H. Valentine are as good as any. These can be obtained from Spink & Son, 17, 18 Piccadilly, London. If you want us to send you any of these, we can probably make arrangements.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E

A. L. ASHBY
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW
P. O. BOX 1236
PITTSBURGH, PA.

March 29, 1923.

Mr. Howland Woods,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, Between 155th & 156th St.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Woods:-

Appreciate your letter of March 21st and would be very much pleased if you would arrange to have the librarian forward me any of the books included in your list, preferably the three volumes by Lockhart "Currency of The Farther East" and Ramsden's book on Modern Struck Coins.

If you will do this, Mr. Marlier and myself will use them at once and return them promptly and further, will return them immediately on receipt of request whether we are through with them or not. We also agree to be responsible for their safe return in perfect condition.

These books will be a great help to us as we have been considerably handicapped for lack of proper data.

Do not suppose you have any duplicate foreign coins to offer, but should have have at any time, will be pleased to hear from you. I believe the only specimen I have ever received from you was the Kimmuredge Coal money.

Very truly yours,

HDG-CBG.

Handwritten signature: H.D. Gibbs

Handwritten note: Send all history to NW

April 2nd, 1923

H. D. Gibbs, Esq.
P.O.Box 1236
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

In the course of a few days I can send to you Lockhart's Currency in the Father East. As it may have to go by Express, please give me some other address than the Post Office box.

We have a number of Oriental coins in duplicate, and a little later I will send some to you, but this may take some time as we are right in the midst of changing our exhibition.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E

A. L. ASHBY
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW
P. O. BOX 1236
PITTSBURGH, PA.

April 4, 1923.

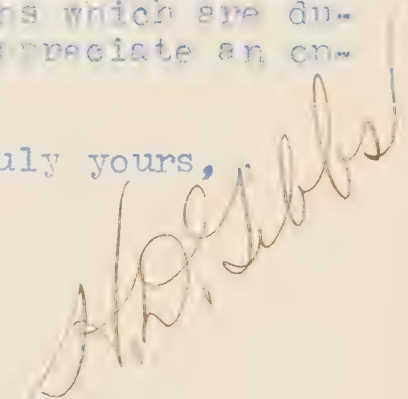
Mr. Howland Wood,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, between 155th & 156th Sts.,
New York City, New York.

Dear Mr. Wood:-

Wish to thank you for your favor
of April 2nd and in reply beg to advise that
my home address is 7104 Highland St., Homewood
Station, Pennsylvania, and if you will send
this by express to that point, it will be ap-
preciated.

I am pleased to note that you
have a number of Oriental coins which are du-
plicates. I will sincerely appreciate an op-
portunity to look over these.

Very truly yours,



HDG-CBG.

April 13th, 1923

H. D. Gibbs, Esq.
P.O. Box 1236
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

I am having forwarded to your home address the three volumes of the "Currency of the Father East", and Ramsden's "Modern Struck Coins". I think you could safely keep these for three or four weeks.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E

A. L. ASHBY
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW
P. O. BOX 1236
PITTSBURGH, PA.

April 21, 1923.
7104 Upland Street.
Pittsburgh, Penna.

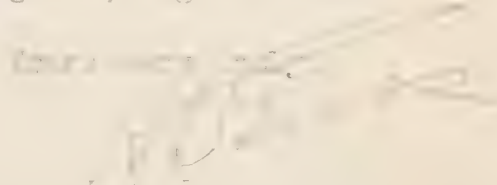
Mr. Howland Woods,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 156 St
New York City.

My dear Mr. Woods:

Wish to thank you most sincerely for the books, which arrived
a day or two ago and which will be given every care and will
will returned on request or within the time limit you mentioned
in your letter. Cannot tell you what a help these will be and
if I can reciprocate at any time will be only too glad to do
so.

Do not forget me when there are any duplicates to be had.

With kindest personal regards, beg to remain



PS Spent a Sunday afternoon with your friend Marcusson in
Cleveland, also met Cathcart.

May 22nd, 1923

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
P.O.Box 1236
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

I will have sent to you in the course of a few days, by parcel post, some coins of the Shahs of Persia and the Sassanian kings. The prices are marked on the envelopes. Among the Sassanians you will find many duplicates, and from these you can take what you wish.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HM/E

Mr. Howland Wood;

Dear Friend

Many thanks for sending coins - There are a number I can use but before making selection I want to ask if the envelopes are supposed to contain the number of coins marked as I find numerous cases where the larger envelopes are marked to contain a certain number and do not also a quite a number of smaller envelopes marked 2 or 3 which only contain one - also some marked so much "each" indicating more than one while only one coin was enclosed - and as a number are not marked with any quantity I hesitate to make any selection until sure that this agrees with your lists. Please advise and I will be glad to return

Release promptly after my friend Marlin can
also have a chance to look them over.

Am returning books this week. They were a
revolution to me - I tried to get photo-stat
but they wanted 50⁰⁰ for plates alone so I
copied all of them by hand - some job but
worth the effort.

I suppose the prices on the Com's are not -
Some seem very high for condition and I
hesitate to pay too much for imperfect pieces.

Very glad to hear from you and sincerely
appreciate your kindness which I wish I could
reciprocate.

Yours very sincerely,

R. D. K.

Change address to 7104 Uptown St - New York

May 31st, 1923

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
7104 Upland Street
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

I intended to change the notations on the envelopes before sending the coins to you. Evidently I simply made a list of them without correcting the envelopes. The reason for the discrepancy is that selections have already been made from this collection; therefore, all you need to do is to pay attention to the prices and not to the numbers. The prices on the coins are net; and where they seem high in some instances for poor condition, it is because the coin is scarcer. With Mohammedan coins, there is very little difference in price between various grades, as it is no crime to have an Oriental coin with a hole in it or a ring on it.

I am glad that the books interested you. Let me know what other books you may want.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E

June 8th, 1923

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
7104 Upland Street
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of
the books on the Grever Collection. Many
thanks for their safe return.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E

June 16-1923
7104 Upland St
Pittsburgh Pa

Dear Mr. Litch

Please pardon delay on coins. I finished picking mine over a week ago but was unable to get Mr. Marlier to see them until last night. Check is enclosed for \$50.75 which I believe is correct as near as I could check, if not please advise as I went over everything carefully but due to the different prices and some envelopes being badly worn there were some on which we could not be sure.

Have you any more duplicates? we are particularly interested in Oriental, especially Chinese-Japanese-as well as Indians- personally I prefer Copper to all other metals.

will be glad to hear from you again soon, and wish to thank you most kindly for your many favors.

Yours very truly

Mr. and Mrs. D. Litch

will pack coins to-morrow
and return Monday

June 19th, 1923

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
7104 Upland Street
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

I am in receipt of your letter of June 16th with cheque enclosed for \$50.75, for which please accept my best thanks. I am glad that you found so many pieces to add to your collection. I will send you another package of coins shortly. Unfortunately, we have comparatively few duplicates in copper, but I will do the best I can for you.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HM/E

SALES SUBJECT TO STRIKES, ACCIDENTS
OR OTHER CAUSES BEYOND OUR CONTROL

PITTSBURGH, PENNA.

Dear Friend:

Please pardon delay in returning package which only went yesterday but Mr. Marlier called me just as I had it ready to send before saying that he wanted to go over them again in the day light so that delayed their return a few days. He selected \$2.30 more and I enclose check for this amount. Trust you will find this O.K. Thanks for your kindness. Will be glad to hear from you anytime. Send on whatever you have any time.

H. D. Gibbs

Mr Howland Woods,
A.N.S. New York.

PITTSBURGH, PENNA.

7104 Lepland St

Dear Mr Wicks

I have supposed you were away
for the summer so did not write.

were the corn's returns all right
and did my two checks cover the corn kept.

Ordinarily it would not be necessary to ask
this but so many of the envelopes were
in bad condition or the markings were
not correct that we could not be sure.

would appreciate a line from you
if for any reason remittance was not
correct - would also like to know when
you will have some more.

Yours very truly,

H. D. Long

August 31st, 1923.

Mr. H. D. Gibbs,
7104 Upland Street,
Pittsburgh, Penna.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Your letter just at hand, and I want to apologize for not acknowledging your previous letters and check - in fact I thought I had done so.

The coins and everything came back, and I saw it would be pretty nearly hopeless to check up, so I accepted your count as correct.

I am right in the middle of re-arranging another exhibition, and as soon as I can I will send you another lot of coins to look over.

Very truly yours,

Curator.

March 24th, 1925

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
7104 Upland Street
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Are you still interested in Mohammedan coins? If so, I have a number of interesting pieces which I should like to send you. I have been doing nothing with these for the past year, for which reason you have not heard from me.

The coins I have here are the Early Caliphs of Baghdad and the Seljuke dynasty. This dynasty was very important historically - the coins of which figured in the First Crusades. It was also during this time that Art and Literature in Persia reached a high level.

Very truly yours,

Curator

7104 Upland St
Homewood, Pittsburgh, Pa.
March 25, 1925

Dear Mr. Woods:

Was glad to hear from you again. Sure will be glad to see any and all duplicates you may have not only in the Mohammedan series but any others. Am interested in all coins except US and Ancient.

Thanking you for your kindness in remembering me and hoping to hear from you often, remain

Yours sincerely

H. D. Giblin

P.S. wonder if you would have my address changed to above on next mailing.

March 28th, 1925

H. D. Gibbs, Esq.
7104 Upland Street
Homewood, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

I have today had snipped to you a package of coins by parcel post.

You will note in looking over the Seljuke coins that there is really a remarkable series of two of the rulers, showing a great many die varieties and years; and it might be interesting to take the whole lot.

We have been glad to make note of your change of address, as requested.

Very truly yours,

Curator



ALEX. BLACK COAL COMPANY

ROBERT W. KISER

SALES SUBJECT TO STRIKES, ACCIDENTS
OR OTHER CAUSES BEYOND OUR CONTROL

PITTSBURGH, PENNA.

7104 Upland St., Homewood,
Pittsburgh, Penna.
April 3, 1925.

Dear Mr Wood:

Package received and coins O.K. I am writing to ask if there is a chance for a substantial discount if a quantity of these pieces are taken.

Please understand I am not just trying to get a reduction in price but the proposition is simply this- there are many varieties among this collection and some of the pieces are in indifferent condition and it so happens that the rulers which are the scarcer and of which fewer coins are included are invariably of the poorer sort although the prices are just the same. Now the question is this- am I to select one nice piece of each ruler and location and pay the marked price or can you see your way clear to make a reasonable discount so that I can feel free to select one of each year, ruler, mint etc.

My circumstances are such that I cannot just buy anything I want regardless of price and I do hesitate to pay the price on these envelopes just to get varieties but I would like to keep a lot of them and would feel satisfied to do so if the prices were lower, especially where the condition is not just all that could be desired.

I will await your reply and in the meantime expect several local collectors to make some selections. I hope you will see my point of view. I will keep some of them regardless of your decision but will probably keep several times as many in case you feel free to allow a substantial discount on a quantity of them.

Thanking you for your kindness in remembering me, I am

Yours very truly,

W.D. Ciss

April 4th, 1925

H. D. Gibbs, Esq.
7104 Upland Street
Homewood, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs: .

Your letter just at hand, and I understand and appreciate your position.

The coins are not new, but I have authority to get what I can for them. As with most Oriental coins, a large part of the value is in their being attributed. It costs about 25¢ a coin to attribute them; and where unattributed, they often sell for old silver. When attributed, they bring much more.

Both the owner and I want to get rid of as much of this collection as we can; and if you can take over one-third of the coins, I will give you 25 per cent off on the silver coins; but as the gold coins are really priced low, I can only offer ten per cent off.

It is extremely hard to get the older Oriental coins in good condition or without holes, as they were invariably used until worn out; and when buried, come out of the ground badly corroded. This lot that I am sending you is in about the average condition in which one gets these coins.

Very truly yours,

Curator

7104 Upland St
Pittsburgh, Penna.
April 9, 1925.

Dear Mr. Wood:

I appreciate your understanding and have selected just as many coins as I could use also had ~~had~~ other local collectors look them over. The total retained was \$92.10 of this amount I believe \$21.00 was gold (less 10 %) and the balance less 25 % Total discount \$20.10 Net \$72.00 for which check is enclosed. Coins returned today PP.

I could not afford to keep any of the gold coins myself although I would like very much to have done so but another local collector made a selection before I received your letter and I am depending on memory as to the amount of the gold coins he kept but as near as I can remember they amounted to \$21.00 if this is not correct I will be glad to pay the difference as I did not keep a record of what he took except as to total.

Wish to thank you for your kindness in sending these pieces and will be glad to hear from you any time.

Do you know of anyone who has any Chinese coins or any dealer through whom they can be obtained. I have quite a large collection of the cash coins and with the help of the Lockhart catalogue (which you very kindly sent me last year I have been able to classify most all of them. I am more interested in copper coins (of any foreign country) than I am in the silver although I am very much interested in all counterstamped coins, siege pieces odd shapes, etc.

Would it be possible for me to obtain a loan through the A.N.S. of some book or books that would enable me to classify the thick dump copper coins of India. I have a lot of these and many I cannot place and as such catalogues seem to run pretty high in price I have hesitated to buy or bid on any of them. Anything you can do to advise me on this question will be appreciated.

I might mention that I have quite a large variety of duplicate early Chinese cash of many reigns which would form a basis for trade ~~with~~ with any collector interested in the same thing.

With kindest regard, I am

Yours truly
H.D. Galt

April 11th, 1925

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
7104 Upland Street
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

The package of coins arrived today; and as near as I can check up, I think your accounting is correct.

I am sending you another package of coins, and I will allow the same discount to these as on the other lot.

At the present moment, I am unable to help you out much on the Chinese coins. Later on, I should be very glad to lend you some of our books on Indian coins; just now we are using them constantly. There is really no one book which will help you very materially - it is a matter of going through about twenty pamphlets and as many books; and then possibly you would only be able to work out a little over one-half of your pieces.

I shall be glad to keep you in mind regarding the Chinese coins.

Very truly yours,

Curator

7104 Upland St
Pittsburgh, Penna.
April 20, 1925.

Dear Mr Wood:

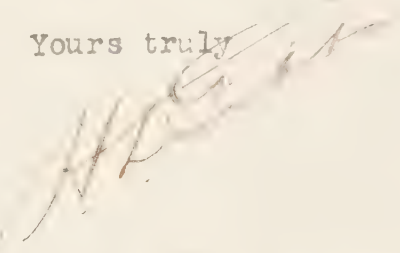
Your last package received and contained a lot of coins of interest, especially so since I did not have any of these particular pieces so they were entirely new and welcome.

Am sorry I do not collect gold but so far have not been able to afford to put the money into it also frankly I care more for copper than silver or gold. There is only one foreign collector here who buys gold and he seemed to think the pieces were too high considering condition.

The total amount retained was Silver \$53.45 less 25 % (13.45) total \$40.00 Gold \$3.50 less 10 % (.35) total \$3.15 Total both \$43.15. Hope you find this entirely correct.

Appreciate your kindness in sending coins and will welcome more. Are there any copper coins in this collection of duplicates you are sending me?

Yours truly



PS I have an article of yours somewhere on the coins of Tegucigalpa. Have never seen one offered although I have been watching the sales for some years. Have you any idea where a duplicate could be purchased. Pardon me for asking so many questions but I always seem to get what I want when I ask you.

April 25th, 1925

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
7104 Upland Street
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Your cheque, together with the coins, arrived here safely - or, rather, the cheque did! When returning any more coins, please wrap them up in bundles, as I did, and put plenty of stuffing in the box, as the package came broken in half. I have had no chance yet to see what was lost.

I have some copper and a lot of Indian to send you, but cannot get these right off.

The coins of Tegucigalpa are extremely rare; they virtually never turn up. The four pieces we have are all I have seen in twenty years; and for fully six years, I have been unable to locate a single specimen.

Very truly yours,

Curator

7104 Upland St
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mr. Howland Wood:

I am very very sorry if the last package arrived in bad condition. I thought it was securely wrapped and tied when I mailed it and assure you that I will take the greatest care in the future. If there was any loss please advise so you can get the postal receipt to file claim. The package was in good condition when mailed.

Will be glad to hear from you any time.

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. B. Wood", is written over a horizontal line.

May 2nd, 1925

Mr. H. B. Gibbs
7104 Upland Street
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

I shall send to you on Monday or Tuesday next a small box containing Persian and other oriental coins. In each bag is a relation stating whether the contents of the bag are at the rate of five cents or ten cents. I shall have to make these prices net.

Very truly yours,

Corrator

May 15th, 1925

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
7104 Upland Street
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Did you receive the package of Persian
copper coins which I sent you at the beginning
of this month?

I have just gotten together a number of
Indian rupees, and will send them to you if you
would care to have me do so.

Very truly yours,

Curator

7104 Upland St
Pittsburgh, Penna.

Mr Howland Wood:

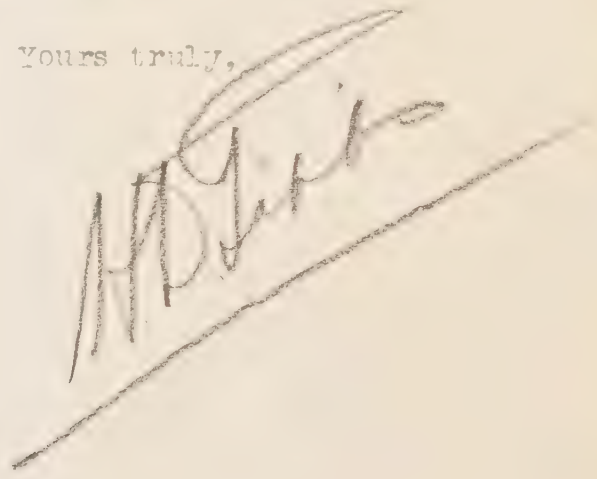
I hope you will pardon delay but I have been out of the City and only last night had a chance to see the coins.

This last lot were in very poor condition as you no doubt know in fact there wasn't more than a half dozen pieces in the entire lot that were in any kind of condition. However these are the kind of coins I like best and providing they do not cost too much I will keep them. The pieces that are not entirely blank or completely defaced amount to about \$11.00 and for these I will pay \$8.00. The balance I nor any one else can use and I will either return them or throw them away as they are just pieces of copper and not worth paying postage for.

I would welcome a thousand coins like this last lot if they could be had in better condition but so many are almost smooth while others are corroded or damaged in other ways.

I'll be home now for some time except a few days over Decoration Day so you can send the other coins whenever convenient.

Yours truly,

A large, stylized handwritten signature, likely "A. G. Smith", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is in dark ink and is quite fluid and cursive.

June 1, 1925

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
7104 Upland Street
Pittsburgh, Penna.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Your letter just at hand. I agree with you that the copper coins were of no large account. Why not give me \$9.00 for everything and not both to send anything back. Like you, I wish that they were in better condition. We picked out perhaps thirty pieces. One or two were in worthwhile shape.

Under separate cover I am sending you some Indian and Afghan rupees.

I cannot make any reduction on these prices for most of them are marked at forty and fifty cents and they still have an exchange value of thirty six and a fraction cents so you see the margin of safety is very small. These coins marked more are worth the price.

Very truly yours

HW C

Curator

6/9/25
Stamens: red
pistil: yellow
M.H.

June 11, 1925

H. D. Gibbs, Esq.
7104 Upland Avenue
Pittsburgh, Penna.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Many thanks for your check which came
yesterday.

Although I asked our man to send the
package last Friday, I find that he didn't send it
until Tuesday.

Very truly yours

HW C

Curator



ALEX. BLACK COAL COMPANY

ROBERT W. KISER

SALES SUBJECT TO STRIKES, ACCIDENTS
OR OTHER CAUSES BEYOND OUR CONTROL

PITTSBURGH, PENNA.

7104 Upland St
Pgh Pa

7/13/11

Friend Wood!

The party I was talking about was out Saturday and wants practically all of the balance but simply won't pay the marked price his contention being that almost every piece has the usual punch marks. I told him that you had written me that prices were not but before returning the coins I am writing to ask what you can do. This ^{is} nothing to me as I have already made my selection. This party is worth a lot more money than I am but unlike myself he never lets his likes rule his head and he will buy only when he thinks the price is right.

Advise me so I can return coins or send check. Thanks - sorry for delay but was in Canada on vacation trip.

Don't forget the books on Indian copper coins.

YOT
H.D. Eiss

July 14, 1925

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
7104 Upland Street
Pittsburgh, Penna.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Thanks for your last letter.

The prices for these Indian coins are as near to their exchange as - wrote you I don't see how I can make any discount. Rather than have the bulk come back, he can have them at 5 % off but not a cent more than that.

Very truly yours

HW C

Curator

7104 Upland St
Pgh Pa
7/17

Friend Woods

I enclose check for coin's 29^{th} less 59. = 27^{th}
Thanks for concession - none of my "doughs". Am returning
balance of coin's to-day. Have you any more to send?

Yr T.
J. W. Dixon

July 30, 1925

H. D. Gibbs, Esq.
7104 Upland Street
Pittsburgh, Penna.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

I forgot whether I acknowledged the receipt of the last package you sent back to us, which included the Indian rupees.

Today I am sending you a miscellaneous lot of copper coins, duplicates from the Society's collection. Also, in another package, I am sending Webb's Coins of Raj Putana and Valentine's two books on Indian Coins. I don't know whether you have these or not but they are about the most comprehensive I can send you.

I will be gone most of August so you can keep the coins and the books until September.

Very truly yours

HW C

Curator

October 23rd, 1925

Mr. E. D. Gibbs
7104 Upland Street
Homewood, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

The books and the balance of the coins came to hand the other day. Many thanks for their safe return. I have been so flooded with work lately that I have been unable to find time to pick out anything here for you. If there is any specific book which you may want, I will see if we have it in our library and will send it if I can.

Very truly yours,

Curator

Have not heard
from you for some
time. Have you
any duplicates of
any kind (foreign)?
and can I have
some more books
on Oriental coins -
Indian - etc.

you have been very
kind to me and I have
made more real progress
in the past two years
than ever before - thank
to your help. I appreciate
that you are a busy
man and that fact makes
your assistance more
noteworthy.

7104, 11 pland st
P. 7580100

J. H. G.

7104 Highland St
Pittsburgh Pa
Apr 12

Mr Howard Weiss

If nothing unforeseen comes I will
be in N.Y. for Elders Sale. and as I have
never been to a sale and have been planning
for years to attend one I am looking
forward to it with much pleasure.

I hope to have the pleasure of
meeting you and thanking you
personally for your many kindnesses.

Yours truly
H.D. Fisher

April 21st, 1926

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
7104 Upland Street
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Your last letter has remained on my desk unanswered for some time, the reason being that I really had nothing to send you.

If I do not enclose in this letter a list of Oriental books which I have for sale, I will send it on later.

I shall be very glad to see you next week, and I know that we have plenty here to interest you. I doubt if I shall be attending Elder's Sale.

Very truly yours,

Curator

Mr Howard Wood

I assume you are back
in my old world picture the books
you kindly sent me, also a
check for coins and for cost.

Mr Wood I cannot properly
express my appreciation for your
help - can only say that
with the books you sent me
on Chinese & now on Indian
I have made more progress
in the last year than in
the past ten. The coin you
have kindly sent me have
been very welcome and
are just the coin I have had

(opinion of most of our local
collectors to the contrary,
notwithstanding). will be
pleased to hear from you
anytime and if ever I can
be of service to you in any
way don't hesitate to advise
me how. would welcome
more books on Oriental -
as I still have many Indian
not classified.

With kindest regards and
Thanking you again for your
great help and many kindnesses
I am

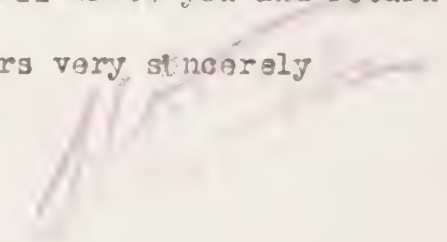
Yours sincerely
H. H. G. F.

7104 Upland St
Pittsburgh, Pa.
May 5th

Dear friend Wood:

Arrived home safely and will go over and check up on the coins in the next ten days if possible. Want to thank you for your many courtesies and certainly appreciate your kindness. Have never in all my life spent a more enjoyable or profitable day than last Friday. Find a lot of things piled up and won't get to the coins for a few days but will write you and return the coins not wanted as soon as I can get to it.

Yours very sincerely



7104 Upland St
Pittsburgh, Penna.
May 18, 1926

Dear Mr Wood:

I hope you will pardon my delay in returning the coins but I have been very busy since I came back as my wife was called to Atlantic City to attend a sick relative and I have had two youngsters on my hands- and not much time in the evenings for coins.

I enclose \$21.65 which I think you will find OK. Will be pleased to have you send on the Oriental coins anytime but won't send check until June 15th but if you wish will return the coins not wanted immediately.

Would it be possible to borrow a copy of Atkins on coins of the English Colonies? I thought I knew something about these coins but after talking to you and seeing some of yours I realized that there is probably more I don't know than I do know.

With kindest regards and best wishes, believe me

Yours sincerely,

Howard G. ...

Coins by PP today

May 21st, 1926

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs
7104 Upland Street
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Your letter enclosing cheque for \$21.65
at hand. Many thanks.

I will send you a small bunch of Chinese
coins, different, for the most part, to those
which you took with you; and later I will send
you the Oriental coins.

I am sending you, under separate cover, the
Book of Atkins on the English Colonies.

Would any of the books on the list I forward-
ed, be of use to you?

Very truly yours,

Curator

7104 Upland St
Pittsburgh, Pa.
May 26, 1926

Friend Wood:

Many thanks for the Book which will help me a lot-will keep it several weeks and number my coins unless I hear from you in which case will send it back at once. Many thanks for the Chinese would sooner have these than any coins I know of although I like them all. Please send me all you can. Someday I hope you will have a few duplicates of the early one- especially the real small ones with no inscription- just a ring like you showed me in the collection. I wish there were some way I could show my appreciation for you & many kindnesses- have learned more in the past year than in the previous five years-thanks to you. Have entirely recovered- financially from my trip and you can send on anything you have-will remit promptly. Wasslow in returning the duplicates-they went yesterday- Chinese in a day or two. Is your invitation still open to come down and spend a Sunday with you at the Society? Want to avail myself of this chance if you want me- sometime later in the Summer. Kindest personal regards

H.D. Galt

There were a number of lots of Byzantine coins in Ecken's last Sale. I heard Mr. Newell say he wanted them so I didn't bid. I wonder if he got any duplicates and would care to sell? Have never collected them but believe I will now.



ALEX. BLACK COAL COMPANY

ROBERT W. KISER

PITTSBURGH, PENNA.

SALES SUBJECT TO STRIKES, ACCIDENTS
OR OTHER CAUSES BEYOND OUR CONTROL

May 28th, 1926

Mr. H. D Gibbs
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

The returned coins reached here yesterday.
Many thanks.

I trust you received the small package sent
last week with some supplementary Chinese coins.

I forget to state in my previous letter, that
all of the coins above each ticket are of the price
marked on that ticket.

Very truly yours,

Curator

June 3rd, 1926

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
7104 Upland Street
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

The Chinese coins arrived the other day, and yesterday I sent on to you a package containing the Mohammedan coins from the Staroselsky collection, which you asked me to send to you.

I really could not say whether Mr. Newell bought those Byzantine coins or not, as I was not at Elder's Sale, and have seen very little of him since that time. Byzantine coins, for the most part, are sufficiently cheap but they come in horribly poor condition.

I expect to be away all of July, and, possibly, the first week or so of August. I shall be glad to see you some Sunday after that time.

Very truly yours,

Curator

6/6/26

7104 upland to
Pgh Pa

Friend Wood:

Coin received recd. I write to
inquire if the same terms are before apply
you recall you allowed me 25% off on
Silver and 10% on gold. Will this still apply

I find very few ruler amount
varieties but can use a number of
date & die varieties. Note quite a
number of envelopes marked a certain
number of pieces - no doubt when you
classified them - that now contain one
or more coins less than marked - suppose
some have been sold.

Am getting a lot of good dope
from them.

Dont forget - send me many coins
you get - especially Chinese and Indian
Coppers

Kindest regards.

(H.D.)

June 9th, 1926

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
7104 Upland Street
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Your letter just at hand. I do not see now how I can give you 25% off on the silver coins as everybody else who has bought from this collection has paid the price marked on the envelopes. I know that I offered that on those previously sent you, but I never felt really satisfied in doing so. The coins are really cheap enough, considering they have all been attributed, and you can make your selections and do not have to buy anything you do not want. Also, I am trying to get as much as I can for the owner of them who really needs the money. Certain coins have been purchased since these were put in the envelopes and the deductions were not made and you will find some envelopes with less than were marked thereon.

Very truly yours,

Curator

6/14
7104 Upland
Pg 100

French Wood.

Thanks to your notes and with the help of others have checked all my English colonies and find to my pleasant surprise that I have the Repeat of

Menangkabu - Pulin Percha - Jaremon - atchet - Delli - Sakh - etc. which are not listed in Aik or elsewhere in any books I have. You will recall you put the characters down in my little book - another good turn I owe you.

Sorry about discount as I didn't want it so much for myself as for a very close buyer here.

May I ask a question and will you answer "yes" or "no" without offense. You know I am intensely interested in Chinese Coins - would you permit me to make a copy of your private catalogues which you showed me? This would take several months hard work and I would probably have it finished by the time you return from your vacation. This is a pretty nervey request and I won't feel hurt if you say no. I assure you however that I will be very careful should you care to have me copy them for my own use. I want to rectify all my Chinese and make a Catalogue for future classification.

Re list of books. I can't tell just what would be of use, so will you please send the following and if I can read them satisfactorily and they will help me I will send check on return at once.

Marsden - Indian Comis	10/6	
Lat Moh Comis Bodleian		2/6 net
Com Mohd - Khalifa		7/6 net
Annals Comis		2/5
Com No India		
Hindu States		2/50

would also like a modern work on Com of Chinese Republic.

Many thanks. Will return when soon.

May I have Forroberts Catalogue some day? I am as lost of books as I net?

Yours sincerely

MJF

June 17th, 1926

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
7104 Upland Street
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Your cheque arrived (\$31.65), for which many thanks. I am sorry, but I have had to refuse lending that manuscript book of Chinese coins to people, and therefore cannot send it to you. It is regrettable because I should like advantage taken of its information, but being a manuscript and the only copy there is, if it were lost or destroyed, years of work would be thrown away, so we have had to make that ruling here.

Yesterday, I sent to you four of the books, for which you asked. The other two - Marsden and Coin of Northern India, have been sold. I wish you would return these after glancing through them, as I have sent the list to several other people.

There is a full list of coins of the Chinese Republic, but it is very hard to get hold of it.

Very truly yours,

Curator

H. D. GIBBS
Numismatist

6/8

Friend Wood:

I hope you will pardon my
slowness but we had a chance to buy
a new home last week and everything
else was driven from my mind.

I have returned Athens and 2 others
today PP and kept Webb - and Toda on anniversary
many thanks.

Did coins arrive safely and were
they packed satisfactorily. You said last time
they were not so I tried to pack them well.

Will send check shortly. Hope
you have a nice vacation.

Yours sincerely,

H.D.G.

August 6th, 1926

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
7104 Upland Street
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

Many thanks for your cheque for the two books which came just after I had left for my vacation. I have just got back to my desk, but expect to be off more or less during this month.

The coins came to hand safely and so did the books which you returned.

Congratulations on getting a new house. I trust that you will enjoy it.

Very truly yours,

Curator

September 4th, 1926

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
7104 Upland Street
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your cheque for five dollars to cover payment of associate dues for 1926. We find no record of having received previous payment for this year. Did you have returned to you the cancelled cheque?

Very truly yours,

Publication Dept.



ALEX. BLACK COAL COMPANY

ROBERT W. KISER

PITTSBURGH, PENNA.

September, 4, 1926.

SALES SUBJECT TO STRIKES, ACCIDENTS
OR OTHER CAUSES BEYOND OUR CONTROL

American Numismatic Society,
155th. & Broadway ,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Sirs:

Please change my address, effective
September 10th. 1926, from 7104 Upland St. to
1400 Belasco Ave., Beechview, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Yours very truly,

HDG:L



Howland Wood

Dear Friend

Havent heard
anything from
you. Hope you
are well and
havent forgotten
your truly H. Wood

1400 C. L. L. L. L.
C. L. L. L. L.
C. L. L. L. L.

January 20, 1927

Mr. H. D. Gibbs,
1400 Belasco Ave.,
Beechview, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Sir:

Your note to me came with your dues and I am hastening to reply. I have been absolutely tied up with all sorts of duties the past few months and have really not gotten anything into shape to offer you. There is a large bunch of copper coins in the offing. They are still not in such shape that I can dispose of them.

I still have you in mind and that is about all I can say.

Very truly yours,

Carrster

HW:MF

1400 Belasco Ave
Pittsburgh, Pa.
March 22, 1927

Friend Wood:

May I bother you again. I have the "bug" for Chinese Coins again and find that although I copied "Lockharts" complete my notes are rather vague in a few cases and I would like to have it again also any other books on Chinese you might have to spare for a few weeks. Oh, what wouldn't I give to be near enough to the Society to make use of your books and what a help it would be to have a talk with you once in a while. We don't have but one serious student here (Mr. Marlier) and his facilities are the same as mine. Would also appreciate a book on modern Chinese (Believe Ramsden is what I need) so I can classify my modern coppers.

Can you put me in touch with any one anywhere that I can get some Chinese coins? Of course I like the odd pieces but these can be picked up a few at a time. What I do like and wish I could get is the common cash coins of the various rulers and mints. Will appreciate any suggestion you can make. What does Mr Reilly and others do with their duplicates and would there be any use appealing to them. I noticed among the coins you showed me that in some cases there seemed to be a lot of duplicates, for instance the thin plain knives of which I haven't any specimen and also the very small round uninscribed coins of which there a great many and of which I have not even a single one. A duplicate of such things as this would be very welcome in my collection.

Hope you will have some duplicates (of any kind) to send me one of these days as I have a little extra money to spare just now. Anything you have will be welcome.

I recently got a number of the Ancient Japanese Sens completing my collection, now having all twelve. Believe these are rare, at least they must be from the time and effort it took to get them all. Gee, I wish I could drop in to see you once in a while and talk to someone who can tell me the many things I want to know. I certainly appreciate your kindness to me.

Yours truly,



March 26, 1927

Mr. H. D. Gibbs,
1400 Belasco Ave.,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

I am having sent to you again Lockhart's three volumes on Chinese Coins and would ask that you return it as soon as you conveniently can, as we have calls now and then for these books. I am also including Ramsden's book on Chinese Coins, which is complete for the copper coins up to 1911. I find I have one copy left, which you can have for 50 cents, which is the price they are selling at.

Did you ever correspond with E. Z. Little, P. O. Box 1150, Yakima, Washington. He has a wonderful collection of coins and many duplicates and I think you can pick up much from him. George F. Brown, Room 408, City Hall, Chicago, collects Chinese coins and you may be able to get things from him.

Just at the present moment, we have nothing in Chinese coins. I still have a bunch to look over but have had no time to do this. Mr. Reilly is not disposing of any of his. Although he has many of those ancient pieces that look alike, no two are really duplicates. You must remember he has a specialized collection and every variant counts with him..

I may be able to pick out some Korean coins for you shortly. I am glad to know you have completed your twelve ancient Japanese Sen. I do hope, however, they are genuine. All but two or three of the commoner ones are extensively counterfeited. In fact of four, one seldom sees anything but counterfeits.

Very truly yours,

April 8, 1927

Mr. H. D. Gibbs,
1400 Delasco Ave.,
Beechview, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Sir:

A week or so ago I sent you the three Chinese
coins of the Glover collection. As I have not heard
from you I was wondering if you had received these.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW:MB

1400 Belasco Ave.,
Pittsburgh, Pa.
April 11, 1927

Dear Mr. Wood:

Please don't think I don't appreciate your sending the books. Don't know whether I ever told you or not but I am Sales Manager for a local concern and am often away for short periods and it just happened that I left the day the books arrived and only returned Saturday.

Thanks for sending them. I will return them very shortly. Thank you also for the names of the two collectors. Will write them as soon as I have time. Don't forget the Korean coins you mentioned, also anything else.

I have at last found out what bit Elder and it is so ridiculous that it isn't worth fighting about. You know I told you that a Kellogg 20 Gold disappeared during the Sales while I was in NY. It seems that he thinks I took it. I never heard a more ridiculous statement. In the first place I have bought coins from him for 10 years or more and he knows that I never in all that time bid on a U.S. coin of any kind and never collected them. Also I understand that he keeps the gold coins in a separate box and must know that I never even saw such a box and had no reason to. Also why would I take this coin, even had I seen it, when there were hundreds of coins that appealed to me and which I couldn't afford to buy on account of the prices? I think the man is crazy and will have nothing more to do with him.

Glad to hear from you any time.

Yours truly,



April 23, 1927

Mr. H. D. Gibbs,
1400 Belasco Ave.,
Beechview, Pittsburgh, Pa.

My dear Gibbs:

I am sending you under separate cover a box of Indian Copper coins, from which you can pick out any you wish at the prices marked on the envelopes. This is all that I have been able to dig out up to date.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW:ME

April 29, 1927

1400 Belasco Ave.,
Pittsburgh, Penna.

Friend Wood:

Many thanks for the coins. I found quite a few varieties and wish there were more. I enclose check for what I have kept, also a dollar, 50 cents for postage on the Lockhart books and 50 cents for the book on modern Chinese coppers which you kindly sent me.

May I bother you further and ~~ask~~ ask you for a book on Mysore coins so that I can properly classify my now quite large collection of coppers, also a book that will enable me to classify Siamese coins, especially the bullets of which I have about 60 var. I believe H.W. A.J.N. 1904 is the standard work on this subject, isn't it? I do like to have my coins properly classified and I am totally in the dark on these Oriental coins without books. I certainly appreciate the trouble you have gone to in helping me.

Will you think me presumptuous if I were to ask you to bring Mrs Wood and spend a week with us? You will be more than welcome. I have a nice home, a car, and have a position that enables me to almost come and go as I please and I can show you all the interesting points within a hundred miles or more of Pittsburgh and it is not far from here to Cleveland and other points and if you wanted to could run you over while you were here. Please consider this as I would like to have you visit me. I hope you will.

Hope you will send on anything that turns up from time to time as these are the kind of coins I really want and would sooner have these coppers than most of the high priced silver coins that are coming to me from Europe every week.

I am returning the books and coins tomorrow PP. Many thanks

Yours sincerely,

W. G. Wood

May 3rd, 1927

Mr. H. D. Gibbs,
1400 Belasco Ave.,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Your letter together with your second enclosure with the check at hand. I am glad to know that you found sufficient Oriental coins to make it interesting for you. Under separate cover, I am sending to you three books, two on Mysore coins, one by Jackson, which Fry probably referred to with a "J", the other a more recent book by Henderson. These two should put you straight on any coins you might have. Probably the best and most up-to-date book on Siamese coins, is the recent publication by Le May. I think this is far better than what I wrote some years ago. Please do not keep this any longer than you can help, as they are being used off and on here.

I wish to thank you most sincerely for the invitation for Mrs. Wood and myself to visit you in Pittsburgh. Just at present we cannot leave the children, who are in school, and, also, just now Mrs. Wood has got a rather serious complication, which will necessitate her being under the doctor's care for, I hope, a short time. I cannot say just yet what our, or rather her, plans for the future will be. I trust that possibly we can avail ourselves later on of your kind offer.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW:MB

1400 Belasco Ave.,
Pittsburgh, Penna.
May 11, 1927

Friend Wood:

Books received, many thanks. They are fine and will help me a lot. Will return them within a few days as I don't want to impose on your good nature but I do want to get as much information from them as I can not only to classify my own collection but want to make notes so that future acquisitions may be properly classified.

With regard to yourself and Mrs Wood visiting us I had in mind later on in the summer thinking that possibly you would include Pittsburgh in whatever vacation plans you had and I assure you that you will both be more than welcome. I sincerely hope that it will work out so that you can spend a week or more with us.

I hope Mrs Wood gets along all right and that everything comes along in good shape.

Kindest regards

W. H. Wood

1400 Belasco Ave

Pittsburgh, Pa. May 23, 1927

Friend Wood:

Many thanks for the books which I returned
a day or two ago. Have been away.

Please don't forget that we want you to visit
us this summer. Hope Mrs Wood is getting along O.K.
Kindest regards

Ever so best wishes that come along, anytime.

H.D. Givens

I.O.U. 25¢ Postage
will include in first check.

HW

Pardon slowness. was in Canada
fishing - also wanted a friend to
see them. He isn't back yet but
will be today. wife's return
comes in a day or two. Thanks

HW

1400 Belasco Ave
Pgh Pa
8/14

Friend wood:

Just returned from the country and have
a letter from my good friend Robert Robertson. Gee, but
I am glad he has located with you. I don't know of
anyone more fitted to be your assistant and it is
certainly fine that my two best mimismatic friends
are to be associates.

I had hoped you and Mrs Wood would
get to Pgh for a visit. I hope Mrs Wood is well
again.

Regards

J.H. Fisher

P.S. you said in your last letter you had - or
would have some Korean Coin for me.

when you get around to it will appreciate
your sending me anything you have.

✕

August 17, 1927

Mr. H. D. Gibbs,
1400 Belasco Ave.,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

I am very glad to hear from you and hope to be able to send you something before long. Mr. Robertson is taking a good deal of the routine work off my hands.

I was off about all of July on a special invitation to Nantucket and my vacation is over with. Mrs. Wood had to have massage, so could not come. She is now visiting with friends for about a month, so you can see that we really cannot be off any longer. It was unfortunate this year that both of us could not be off together.

The whole building is being repainted and we are in confusion for a few weeks.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW:MB



ALEX. BLACK COAL COMPANY

ROBERT W. KISER

SALES SUBJECT TO STRIKES, ACCIDENTS
OR OTHER CAUSES BEYOND OUR CONTROL

PITTSBURGH, PENNA.

1400 Belasco Ave
Pittsburgh Pa
Nov 16-1927

Friend Howland Wood:

Greetings. Now that vacations - conventions etc. are over I have been wondering if you have time to think of me. Have you any duplicates of any kind you can send me. Believe you said you would shortly have some Koreans and some more Indians? Anything will be welcome. Also any books that might help, especially on Oriental coins.

How have you been - also how is my good friend Robert Robertson getting along? Give him my regards and tell him to write me a nice interesting letter as he used to

By the way: I wonder if you will be kind enough to give me the history of those peculiar coins from Africa which you obtained from a French engineer - the long ones of twisted copper. I have been trying ever since I saw them to get one and have at last succeeded in getting two varieties - one with the wings off (spirit gone) but have very little data.

Please send me some coins.

Kindest Regards

Howard ^{git}

Is there anything printed on the Aztec or Toltec (Mexes) chocolate coins? Have you ever heard of Mexican (Hacienda) Soap money. Understand you have a new list of Mex. Revolutionary Issues in the making. Would like to see an article bringing or rather supplementing your West Indian Ant & Cstpd list.

H

23d November, 1927

Mr. H. C. Gibbs,
1400 Belasco Avenue,
Pittsburg, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

On receipt of your letter I got busy and took out those Korean coins and I sent them to you yesterday. You can take your pick at five cents each or take the whole lot at \$3.00. These Koreans are mine.

Although we presumably have a lot of Indian duplicates, we have not yet got around to separating them.

Robertson wishes to be remembered to you. I told him to write you.

I do not know that I can tell you very much concerning those peculiar African coins. These iron pieces are in all sorts of shapes, but the thin, twisted bars of various sizes with small wings on each end are the most common. They seem to be absolute money and are good as long as they are intact. When cut or broken they cease to be money. I understand they are in use in parts of Africa today, and their use extends from West Central Africa (that is, from Senegal) right through the interior into the Belgian Congo.

As regards the Aztec chiseled coins, I know of nothing very scientific written on these from a numismatic standpoint. I have been informed by the best archaeological authorities that these are not and never were coins, but are simply ceremonial pieces. I myself hold no opinion one way or the other. Presumably they have been written up from an archaeological standpoint.

I have heard of Mexican hacienda tokens made of soap but have never seen any.

I am preparing a new list of Mexican revolutionary issues, but can not tell yet when I will get it out.

Very truly yours,

Curator

1400 Belasco Ave.,
Pittsburgh, Penna.
May 1, 1972

Friend Howland Wood:

Pardon delay but have been out of the City. Many thanks for the Korean's for which check is enclosed. Most of them were varieties so I am keeping them all. Will welcome anything else that you get.

Regarding the Indians. I did not expect that you had sorted them but you told me when I was in NY last that you were going to someday and said I might have first chance at the duplicates and I just wanted to keep it in your mind. Whenever you do get to this job (how I wish it were mine) just remember me.

Have been getting some nice coins recently and now have something like \$1200.00 worth of Siege and cstp pieces from Europe on approval. The next time I am in Ny will show you the Mexican Soap Money. Wouldn't want to trust it to the mail. I got it from Mr Shinkle who died some years ago and who stated it had been in the family for many years.

Hope you will send on anything that turns up. Would also appreciate any thing in the way of books as I am ever anxious to learn.

Thanks again for your many kindnesses.

Sincerely,

5/1/72

. 8th December, 1927

Mr. H. D. Gibbs,
1400 Belasco Ave.,
Beechview, Pittsburg, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

Many thanks for your cheque for \$3.00, just received.

I made a start at some of the Indian duplicates the other day but did not get very far, as I got hauled off to edit an article that had just come in. However, with doing some every week I will gradually accumulate a bunch for you.

Trusting to see you when you come to New York,
I remain

Very truly yours,

Curator

1400 Belasco Ave.,
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Jan 4, 1928

Greeting: Wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Three different parties have written me recently about Mexican coins and now I have a long list of coins offered to me quoting "Wood's No" etc.

Have you published a list of the Mexican Issues and can I buy one? I didn't know that such a list was in print although you said you were working on one.

Will you give my best regards to friend Robertson and tell him if he don't write me soon I am coming down to New York and see what is the matter. I value the freindship of yourself and R.R. more than I can tell and I like to hear from my friends.

Have recently received some wonderful Chinese coins which incidently cost a lot of money and which I cannot always afford.

Regards,

Sincerely,

Howard Gibbs

10th January, 1928

Mr. Howard Gibbs,
1400 Belasco Avenue,
Pittsburg, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

A few years ago I got out a monograph on the Revolutionary coins of Mexico. Unfortunately, I have no spare copies of my own, but the Society has some left which sell for \$2.00. In the course of this year I am hoping to get out a new edition. I have been head over heels in work going through a collection of Mohammedan coins. However, there will be few duplicates as we are only picking out those we do not have.

I do not think I will tell Robertson to write to you, because you have put the threat in your letter that you will come down to New York if he doesn't and I'd like to see you here in New York.

Very truly yours,

1400 Belasco Ave.,
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Jan 26, 1928

Friend Wood:

Thanks for your letter. I don't understand how I missed getting a copy of your monograph on the Mexican series. However as I have all the coins in your list except about a half a dozen and also have Mr Littles copy on loan I don't believe I would need to buy one now especially if your are going to issue a new list in the near future.

I hope I understood your last letter correctly and that you will have some duplicates from the Oriental collection to send me as I am always pleased to have anything from you.

With kindest regards, believe me

Sincerely yours,

Howard G. B.

1400 Belasco Ave.,
Pittsburgh, Penna. June 29

Mr Howland Wood,
Amer. Num. Society,
New York City:

Dear Friend:

I haven't heard from you for a "coon's age" and hope you are well. Suppose you are very busy.

Haven't you some duplicates you can spare me. Haven't had any from you for quite a while and have been hoping that you would send me a big bunch of those Indian Dumps after you have found time to sort them.

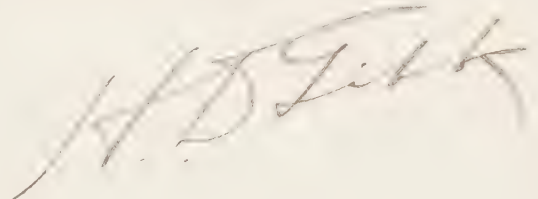
Will appreciate anything at all that you may have.

Have been getting some wonderful coins from Europe this past six months- more than I can really afford but many are of such nature that I think it advisable to buy when they come up. Have increased my West Indies Cut Coins to a really sizeable collection and have almost all the pieces in your list. Wish you could find time to publish another list giving the new pieces that have turned up since the old list was made. Am also looking forward to the book on Mexican Revolutionary Issues.

I got the later Lockhart Catalogue of Chinese Coins- all in one volume so that I won't have to bother you again for the Glover Catalogue which was certainly a big help to me.

Hope you can find a lot of duplicates to send me. With kindest personal regards, believe me

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "H. B. Fisk". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

30th June, 1928

Mr. H. D. Gibbs,
Pittsburg, Pa.

My dear Mr. Gibbs:

All this spring I have been busy finishing up my Mexican Revolutionary articles. I have just completed it and it is now before the Publication Committee. I have not been able to tackle much of the work on the Oriental coins. Robertson, however, has been working on the Chinese. He is now away on his vacation, but I will speak to him when he returns. I myself will be away all summer.

We do not send you coins for two reasons - we have not had many, and also it is so much easier to sell them here at the Society to members and others who are coming in all the time. In fact, we can get rid of almost anything we have right here in the building. However, I think there will be quite a bunch of Chinese coins when Robertson gets through with our collection.

I am glad to know that you have been getting a lot of coins from Europe. After all, this is the best place to get them.

Very truly yours,

Curator

Dear Mr Wood:

Thanks for your interesting letter. I hope you will
g forgive me bothering you so much but I simply cannot
pass up the possibility of getting coins which I like
so well.

I appreciate that you can easily dispose of all the
duplicates you get right in New York without the trouble
of packing and shipping all over the country on the other
hand think of us poor collectors out in the sticks who do
not have the opportunities that New York collectors have.
What wouldn't I give to be able to use the library of
our Society and what a wonderful help it would be. What
local collector do you know who would make a hand drawn
copy of every illustration and all the descriptive matter
in the Lockhardt catalogues.

Won't you please be kind enough to let me have all the
duplicates of the Chinese (also any other Oriental) that
you can. I will gladly take all you have at any price
you set as you have always been fair to me. They need not
be classified and I will take duplicates and all.

You have been very kind to me in the past and I hope you
will continue your help. I don't know why but I wrote
Robinson some time ago and never got a reply. There is
some agency working against me. I don't know why because
my conscience is clear and I fear no man. I have made
mistakes in the past but they are many years gone and I have
nothing to be ashamed of in the past 15 years.

Please do what you can to get me the Chinese and forgive
me for bothering you so much. Possibly being a real coin
lover yourself you may understand my longings.

Sincerely,

I will be happy to get all the coins you want. I will be happy to get all the coins you want. I will be happy to get all the coins you want.

Feb 2nd 1916

I have just received from the
Chinese Consulate, the second case only, of
the Chinese Consulate, 1916, and have
made a selection of my best
specimens, 435 pieces, more or less,
which I am sending to you for
perusal.

Among them you will find many
really rare and scarce items and
only a few duplicates, many are
duplicates of some species.

If the lot is satisfactory to you, will
ask you to please forward your check for
\$23.- in payment for same.

The selection to be made from
the consignment is to be sold as a
whole.

When I have got word from the
"Sung and Park" Co., and the other
from the Chinese Consulate, I will send you
the lot subject to selection.

I thank you for your letter regarding
the lot and will keep you posted.

13th July, 1928

Mr. H.D.Gibbs,
Pittsburg, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

I have classified the Society's Chinese coins, the round ones only, up to the Ching Dynasty, 1616, and have made a fine selection of our best duplicates, 435 pieces, more or less, which I am sending to you by parcel post.

Among these you will find many really rare and scarce coins, and only a few duplicates; many are die varieties of same reigns.

If the lot is satisfactory to you, we will ask you to forward your cheque for \$23 in payment for same. No selection is to be made from the consignment; it is sold only as a whole.

When I get around to the 'knife and fork' coins and the issues from the Ching Dynasty on, I will send you another lot subject to selection.

I thank you for your letter, received long ago, but not having anything to write about I did not reply, for which you will please forgive. There is no 'agency' or evil spirit between us, I can assure you.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Friend Robertson:

I am more than pleased to have your letter and thank you very much for the coins. I am sincerely glad that there is nothing wrong as I have been worried that possibly you too had turned against me. I don't care about Elder because my conscience is clear but frankly I like you a lot and it would grieve me indeed to lose your friendship. You know we all have plenty of friends and acquaintances but there are some who appeal to us more than others and I cannot forget your kindness and courtesy when I was down to New York two years ago.

I suppose your new duties keep you pretty busy and unless you have moved you have a pretty long journey back and forth.

The coins are at my home and I have not seen them yet but look forward to doing so. I know they will be nice and will send you a check in a short time. You see I suffer with what is called Rose Fever a seasonal malady that attaches some people in July and acts as a form of asthma. My home is in the suburbs and is surrounded by a lot of ground with a lot of roses and other flowers and in order to sleep at nights I have had to move downtown to the YMCA for a few weeks.

I hope you have found joy in your new position and I envy you your possibilities. Gee, how I wish I had a chance to use the books at the Society. *Very much*

Please don't misunderstand what I said about an agency at work against me. What I meant was that Elder has done everything to be mean and yet I believe that in his heart he knows that I was innocent.

Thank you again for the Chinese. This is the most interesting series of them all. I have between forty and fifty thousand coins now and my collection is growing faster every year but none of them are more interesting than the Chinese and Oriental Indians, etc. Have found that I am better off without the Elder Sales as I always got a lot of duplicates and many inferior coins. Am still buying some from the Sales (Got \$143.95) mostly Canadians from Hesslien but most of my stuff is coming from abroad and while it costs a lot of money for the better stuff it is worth it.

Where are you going to spend your vacation- or have you had yours. I would be tickled to death if you could spend a week with me. Have a big car-plenty of house room and while I don't know your personal likes I am sure we could entertain you and show you a good time if you will come. Sincerely I mean it-Will you?

I will send a check shortly. Please send the rest of the Chinese when you get them. I will take all you have -think I can dispose of any duplicates you may have.

Sincerely,

Howard *H. G. G. G.*



1400 Belasco Ave Pittsburgh Pa
Aug 30, 1928

Friend Robertson:

Sincerely,

W.D. Fisher

3d September, 1928

Mr. H. D. Gibbs,
Pittsburg, Pa.

Dear Friend Gibbs:

We have sent today per parcel post a
lot of Chinese coins from which you may make a selection.
There are in the lot:

500	coins	@	2	¢	each
208	"	@	5	¢	"
31	"	@	10	¢	"
48	"	@	15	¢	"
2	"	@	20	¢	"
12	"	@	25	¢	"
2	"	@	35	¢	"
2	"	@	50	¢	"
2	"	@	\$1.00		"
1	"	@	1.25		"
2	"	@	1.50		"
2	"	@	2.00		"

This lot exhausts all the duplicates we have in Chinese coins.
Later on we may send you something else that may interest you.

Sincerely yours,

1400 Belasco Ave., Pittsburgh Pa.

Friend Robertson:

I am delighted with the Chinese coins you sent me. They were sure fine and filled a lot of gaps in my collection.

Am looking forward to the later coins of the Mind Dyn as there are many mint varieties I lack. Also the early odd shaped coins. When you get these sorted I will be mighty glad to have them.

Thanks very much for your kindness. These Chinese coins mean a lot to me as I never seem to be able to find a dealer who has the ones I want.

Sincerely,

Howard Gink

Check enclosed.

*Don't forget to work
on the coins
I sent you
last week*

1400 Belasco Ave
Pgh Pa Sept 26

Friend Wood:

Greetings: You can do me a favor if
you will.

Robert Robertson writes me that he may
get a couple of days off in October (12th + 13th - 14th)
and if he does will come to Pgh for a visit.

Will you use your kindly offices to
see that there isn't any "if" about it. I want
very much to have him come on and if you
can help the good work along I will appreciate it. Thanks.

When is Howland Wood and his good wife
coming to pay us a visit? I have been hoping it
could be arranged. You surely know how welcome
you would be. I certainly wish I could reciprocate
for your great help and kindness to me.

kindest regards

Sincerely,

W. H. H. H.

27th September, 1928

Mr. H. D. Gibbs,
Pittsburg, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

I think Robertson is planning to visit you for a day or two following Columbus Day. However, I will see what I can do in making it sure. As for myself and wife it has been very hard for us to get away on any long trips as we are away all summer with the children and after school begins we have to keep them in school and can not do much breaking away. Nevertheless, I have thought of your kind invitation and hope some time to avail myself of it.

Very truly yours,

1400 Belasco Ave Pittsburgh, Pa.
October 25, 1928

Friend Wood:

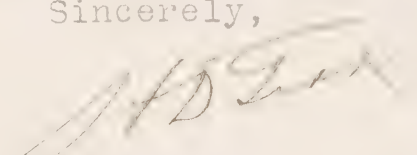
Had a delightful visit with Robert Robertson last Sunday at the Society and was sorry that it was Sunday and you were not there.

There are two matters I wanted to ask you about. First: you will recall that I have been bothering you for Oriental coins for several years and when I saw you in NY two years ago you promised me that when you had any duplicated or got a chance to go over the big lot you had unassorted you would send them to me. Guess you must have forgotten it as RR sent a bunch to Auction Sales. I feel sure it would be more profitable to give them to me and I am sure I would appreciate them more. When you have any more please remember "yours truly". You, I know, like the Oriental coins so you can understand my liking of them.

The next subject: RR showed me a whole drawer full of "fake" Chinese and I wonder if I could persuade you to let me have them. They are worth a lot to me and are worthless to you, for this reason. Both yourself and Robertson, as well as Mr Reilly and no doubt others in NY can tell these fakes at a glance. If there is any question you have the Reilly Collection as well as your own wonderful collection to use for comparison, to say nothing of all the books on the subject,; while I have nothing to compare them with and since my return I have already discovered over a hundred dollars worth of fakes sold me as genuine, and to my unexperienced eye they looked genuine. They all came for "reliable dealers. The copies you have would enable me to tell when I am getting the real thing and as I am only just getting really started on the Chinese they would probably save me many a heartache later. What say you? Will be glad to buy these at any reasonable figure and I am sure you do not need them to tell the good from the bad.

Will be glad to hear from you. Regards

Sincerely,



20th November, 1928

Mr. H. D. Gibbs,
Pittsburg, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Please pardon my delay in answering you, but I have been so filled up with work that I have not been decent to any one. I am sorry that I could not see you the day that you came to New York, but we had a house full of company over Sunday.

I have not had any big lot of Oriental coins in duplicate since I saw you. I have been going over these, a few at a time, and most of them have gone to two collectors here who come up about every Saturday. All these we did send to an auction sale were rubbish and those that you had seen before, and some silver coins that I didn't think you were interested in, as I was then under the impression you preferred copper to silver. However, we will bear in mind to send you some in the future as we get them. Nevertheless, those people that keep coming in here and asking for duplicates naturally get first chance.

I am very much afraid I shall have to disappoint you as regards the Chinese 'fakes'. It is not our policy to sell fakes as we do not know to what purposes they may be diverted after they leave our hands. I do not distrust you, but sometime if your collection is sold they may be sold as originals, and it is our purpose to keep as many as possible out of the market. Again, all the fakes we have are from different molds. They are of far more importance to a museum than to any private collector.

I was much interested in the lot of Chinese coins you sent on a while ago. I trust that you can get your money back on most of those.

Very truly yours,

1400 Belasco Ave Pgh Pa. Dec 20

Friend Robertson:

Just a line to wish you and Howland Wood a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Hope this finds you well. We are having a lot of trouble here with the Flu and a lot of peoples are sick. So far myself and family have escaped.

I am sorry that I am unable to pay my bill more promptly but I have had one set back after another. You yourself were responsible for one of them without your knowledge?? I sent a bunch of duplicates to Hesslein for sale and expected to get them in the Dec Sale but now have a letter explaining that your bunch reached him first and he thought it best not to put them both in the same sale. However I enclose check on account and hope to send another shortly. I probably worry a lot more about oweing a bill than the other fellow.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,



26th December, 1928

Mr. H. D. Gibbs,
Pittsburg, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

As usual, I am several weeks behind in acknowledging my correspondence, but I beg to thank you for your cheque in partial payment of the coins bought.

I am beginning to dig in to some of those Indian coins, weeding out the duplicates, but I have not got them into good enough shape to send them out. I will, however, send you a batch of these later on.

With the compliments of the season, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Curator

1400 Belasco Ave

Pittsburgh Pa Jan 28

Friend Wood:

Want to extend my congratulations on
the Mex. monograph. mighty fine and much needed.

Thanks for your letter. Glad to hear
you will have some Indians for me shortly
as I haven't had any new ones for a long time
and need to get a lot from you.

I am sorry to say that I got stung
good on the ~~same~~ collection and the deal
is not settled yet. Mr Wallis of the
Calif. Slaves deliberately misrepresented
this collection to me and we are having
it out in an extensive correspondence.

I wonder if you will lend me some
more books anything on foreign coins
especially Korea - Malay Peninsula India
etc.

with sincere regards.

Yours truly

A. D. Gibbs

W. Woodruff, B. H. in for a day and send the collection
also for the same collection

30th January, 1929

Mr. H. D. Gibbs,
Pittsburg, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

I was very glad to hear from you. I am still working over Indian coins, quite largely Southern Indian, but have not got through with my labors yet. There are two or three of us here working on the Far Eastern coins and I am working on the Indian, so do not see how we can send any of these books out just now as we keep referring to them.

I trust you will be successful with our things in Hesselin's sale.

Very truly yours,

25th Feb., 1929

Mr. H. D. Gibbs,
Pittsburg, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Many thanks for your cheque for payment on account, and also for the gift to our Society of that Turkestan coin. We are very busy now on the collection of United States coins that have come in; most of them are duplicates but they have to be carefully compared.

Very truly yours,



Fort Pitt Hotel

EPPLEY HOTELS CO



Pittsburgh

1400 Belasco Ave
Pittsburgh Pa
Aug 12

Friend Wood:

S.O.S. I need help. From the
Moguette Sale in May I got about 6000
pieces - mostly Chinks Japs - Annamese
also a large number of Tin & lead
coins of Sumatra Borneo - etc such as
Pontianak Deller - ^{rigal style} Samba - Chanton -
etc. Can you let me have some work
to help classify these. I believe your
own articles on the subject are standard.

Next - Is there any book, except Today,
on Annamese. I have a great many
not listed at all.

Next - Chinks - I find many minor varieties
not in SL or gloves - also about a hundred
not listed at all. What can you suggest -
Robertson kindly said he would classify
anything I sent him but at moment he is

lot of work. advise.

I have many deep boxes of charts & annuaries and if I knew what the Society collection lacked I would be glad to donate. Also many tin coins of Aghah-Tegah etc.

Is Robertson away. I wrote him quite a long while ago but haven't had a reply.

From the Moghul Sale I received several hundred nice Indian - mostly Delhi - Bagdad - Samarkand - Goudgarat - etc. very nice.

With kindest regards -

Yours truly
J H Stob

PS Only stamp I stuck me for over 300⁰⁰ in fake - cft charts in post 4 years.

Nov. 4, 1929

Mr. H. O. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Pittsburgh, Penna.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Your letter arrived just as I came down with the 'flu' and pneumonia, and since my return to the office I have been trying to catch up with back work. Right now we are in the throes of the new building and will be moving before very long. I do not see how we can really help you for a long while to come, as we all have and will have far more work than we can properly do.

The only books on the subject are printed in Dutch, by Netcher, Van der Chijs, H. C. Millies, and the Catalogue of the collection in Batavia. If you have not these I think Schulman would be the best person to write to. However, none of these books are more than five percent satisfactory. There are two or three large French books on Annamese coins, one by Schroeder and the other by La Croix, -both expensive. As for the Chinese coins, one might have to refer to a number of works in Chinese.

Robertson has been pretty busy and right now is taken up with selling the Winnberg coins. You might write to him in about a month and he might volunteer to help you out. I might feel more ambitious if I was a little stronger, but I am saving myself now all I can. Let me hear from you again and I might be able to help you on some of the most out of the way pieces, if you do not send too many.

Sincerely yours,

Curator.

December 7th 1929

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

I have seen Mexican coins similar to the one you have sent, but I have always been in great doubt as to their genuineness. It is a peculiar thing that as far as I have been able to find out, none of these were known until about twenty years ago. Also I see no reason why they should have been made. I view the whole bunch of them with suspicion because they are cast. If by any chance this series is genuine, I would not include this as a genuine piece because I do not like the looks of it, and it doesn't have the appearance of any age.

Robertson has been meaning to write to you but has been swamped with work this summer and fall on account of my absence.

Sincerely yours,

Curator.

tab of original folder

Cleveland School of Art

Howland Wood - Curatorial

Gibbs, Howard Dunleath
[Pittsburgh, PA]

(f2)
1930-1937

June 11, 1930

H. D. Gibbs, Esq.
1400 Belasco Avenue
Beachview
Pittsburgh, Penna.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

This is just to remind you that you still
owe us ten dollars(\$10.00) for coins bought some time ago.
If you could settle this account, we should be very much
obli
obliged.

Very truly yours,

Curator.

1400 Delasco Ave
Pittsburgh Pa
June 14, 1930

Friend West:

Your letter received. There must be a
mistake somewhere as I certainly was under the
impression that I had paid in full. If this
balance is correct I certainly am sorry as
I never let any bill go that long. Please
have Robertson check up and see if he did
not receive a check from me in full six
or more months ago. I enclose check for
the \$10.00 which you can return if you
find I am right. Did you know I had
bought Geo Brown's Coppers (not Chinese money
or Mex Rev). Got some beautiful coin.
Sincere regards Hurredly
W.D. Loo.

Coins sent to Gibbs - Oct. 15, 1928
 (Returned coins deducted)

2¢	each	21	.42
5¢	"	7	.35
10¢	"	4	.40
15¢	"	7	1.05
20¢	"	1	.20
25¢	"	7	1.75
35¢	"	7	2.45
40¢	"	1	.40
50¢	"	2	1.00
60¢	"	2	1.20
75¢	"	2	1.50
\$1.00	"	12	12.00
1.50	"	3	4.50
1.75	"	1	1.75
2.00	"	3	.6.00
2.50	"	3	7.50
5.00	"	1	5.00
10.00	"	1	10.00

\$ 57.47

Coins delivered to Gibbs - Oct. 21, 1928

Breastates:

25¢	each	1	.25
35¢	"	1	.35
50¢	"	2	1.00
75¢	"	1	.75
\$1.00	"	1	1.00
1.25	"	2	2.50
2.50	"	2	5.00

10.85

Turkestan $\frac{1}{2}$ taels:

1.00	each	21	21.00	21.00
------	------	----	-------	-------

Miscellaneous Coins

Lot	8.15	8.15
-----	------	------

\$ 97.47

Coins returned, Nov. 5

12.--

Bal. due	85.47
By check 12/21	15.47
1929 bal.	70.00
By check 2/18	20.00
Bal.	50.00
By check 4/22	20.00
Bal.	30.00
By check 6/7	15.00
Bal.	15.00
By check 6/15	10.00
Bal.	5.00

June 23, 1930

H. D. Gibbs, Esq.
1400 Belasco Avenue
Pittsburgh, Penna.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Many thanks for the prompt sending of your check for ten dollars. I find that we have both made mistakes. Our records state that your last payment was in June 1929 when you sent \$15.00. Our mistake was that we said you owed us ten dollars, and I find that it is \$15.00. So that everything will be clear to you, we are sending the whole transaction.

Sincerely yours,

Curator.

MILLER COAL & COKE COMPANY

MINERS OF
HIGH GRADE DOMESTIC AND STEAM COAL

216 McKEES ROCKS TRUST BUILDING
McKEES ROCKS. PA.

April 24, 1935.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
155th & Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

H. D. GIBBS
1400 BELASCO AVE.
PITTSBURGH, - PA.

Dear Howland:

It has been a long time since I wrote you or heard from you and I am just wondering if I can call on your good nature once more for some information and assistance.

As you know, I have always been greatly interested in Oriental coins, and you may recall that you at one time loaned me the three volumes of the Glover collection which I laboriously copied by hand. The information in these volumes, combined with Lockhart's catalogue, Brudin's list, consolidated with the coins in my own collection, has given me a nucleus of considerable amount of information. I have been recently requested to write a series of articles for "The Numismatist" which would enable any collector to quickly classify ordinary Chinese coins, and it is my purpose to do so using the top character as an index. In one of Bollender's recent sales there were four volumes on Chinese coins, written in Chinese. I believe these books came from you, and I found in going over them that there are a number of emperors listed which are entirely new to me, and I am just wondering if you have any list giving the Hienhos and the dates of reign, which would help me to check my own list to see that it is correct, or, if you do not have such a list, would you be kind enough to permit me to send you the proof sheets of my article and give me the interpretation of the fifteen or twenty titles and dates which I seem to lack.

I recall that the last time I saw you in New York you had a manuscript which covered this subject, and I am wondering if you ever did anything with it as I remember

MILLER COAL & COKE COMPANY

MINERS OF
HIGH GRADE DOMESTIC AND STEAM COAL

216 MCKEES ROCKS TRUST BUILDING
MCKEES ROCKS. PA.

Mr. J. P. Jones

-2-

April 4, 1938

I am writing you in this letter to tell you that I have
just received a letter from you which has a list of items
which you are collecting of this nature, which are now
the first step to being able to get the items which I have
now in my collection of Africa.

I will thank you for your assistance and cooperation and will
either call you by phone, if you request, or a list of the
items which I am unable to interest.

While I am writing you, I also have a few other things
I recall that you had in one of your cases on the balcony a
long iron pole, about five feet in length, from Africa, which
I remember you told me some French engineer had given you in
Africa. I have recently received a similar piece and would
appreciate if you would give me proper description and loca-
tion and any information you have about this item.

Another question, I remember that you had several thousand
of these Indian bones which you classified and you promised
me that when this work was finished you would let me have a
look at the duplicates. Have you ever gotten around to this
but not have you any duplicates for sale?

My collection has grown to such an extent that I am afraid
that I am going to have to build an addition to the house as
it has taken up every available inch of space and I am rather
at a loss to know what to do.

With kindest personal regards, believing me truly, I am

Yours truly,

Howard D. Jones

HDJ:723

May 3, 1933.

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Ave.
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

Very glad to hear from you and I trust you are making a go with your easy classification of Chinese coins by indexing the first character. I have been away for six weeks in the hospital and I am only just back. Consequently, I am loaded up with work and not feeling any too strong. Therefore, I do not think I would want to tackle right now your complete list. However, if you can send me only those titles that you don't know or are in doubt about I will see what I can do in checking them up. This I could do far easier, than going through your whole list because presumably with the material you have you will give everything that anyone would be apt to get. When you make out this list try to copy as exactly the style of character as you can as sometimes this makes a difference as to how you attribute it. There are several different sizes of those long iron coins; the more common one which is from 15 to 18 inches is called a Guinze and comes from French Guinea and has a trade value of about three of our cents, or before the war of 15 French centimes.

As yet I have done very little on those Indian coins; in fact, the only ones I have sorted out are the copper Kulbarga coins. There might be a dozen varieties in these.

You are just the same as any other enthusiastic collector, that is you load up every inch of space you have with coins and accessories. I got rid of all that when I came here so that the wife now does not complain over my taking up too much room. As a matter of fact she is the one that takes up most of the room now days and I have very little space at home to work in.

Very truly yours,

MILLER COAL & COKE COMPANY

MINERS OF
HIGH GRADE DOMESTIC AND STEAM COAL

~~216 MCKEES ROCKS TRUST BUILDING~~

MCKEES ROCKS. PA.

311 W. Main St., Carnegie, Pa.

H. D. GIBBS
1400 BELASCO AVE.
PITTSBURGH, - PA.

May 5, 1933.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway between 155th and 156th Sts.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Was very glad indeed to get your letter of May 3 and was sorry to hear that you have been laid up. Hope that you are feeling better and will soon be your old self again.

I appreciate very much your agreeing to help me out on a few of the characters for my article, and I am mailing you herewith the pencil copy of same rather than just copying off the few on which I need help as I believe it would be easier for you just to turn to the numbers in question because they are in chronological order, and it will be easier for you to locate the information in this way. If you will be so kind, you can just write in the information lacking right on the sheets. I am attaching a list of the numbers in question so that all you need to do is to refer to the numbers on my list.

Regarding the long iron coins about which I asked you, I am still not quite satisfied that you have given me the information I want. I am quite familiar with the pieces from fifteen to eighteen inches long as I have four or five of these in my collection, but what I want to know is do the same type of pieces five feet or longer come from the same district? I know that you have one of these long pieces and I believe it is identical with mine.

I wish there was some way of knowing just what the Society collection lacks in foreign items as I would be glad to make a donation from time to time, if I knew what was needed.

Are you going to get to the convention at Chicago this year? Hope to see you there.

Yours truly,

Howard Gibbs

PHONES { FEDERAL 0287
FEDERAL 3524

MINE PHONE. FEDERAL 0630

MILLER COAL & COKE COMPANY

MINERS OF
HIGH GRADE DOMESTIC AND STEAM COAL

~~216 McKEES ROCKS TRUST BUILDING~~

McKEES ROCKS. PA.

311 W. Main St., Carnegie, Pa.

May 9, 1933.

H. D. GIBBS
1400 BELASCO AVE.
PITTSBURGH, - PA.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,

The American Numismatic Society,

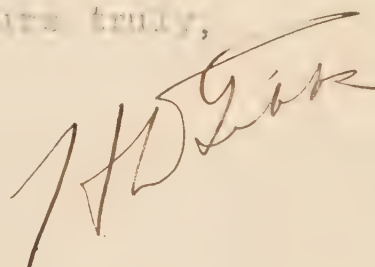
Broadway between 155 & 156th Sts.,

New York, N. Y.

Dear Howland:

I have just recalled when I sent you my
article the other day that I neglected to send
return postage, and I am attaching it hereto.

Yours truly,



HDG:1933
Encl.

May 12, 1933.

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Pittsburgh, Penna.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Your letter enclosing stamps just at hand. I also should have acknowledged receipt of your letter containing the manuscript. I have started in to work on this and know that many of your questions cannot be absolutely answered, as they are of disputed rulers.

Very truly yours,

HW: JG

Curator

May 25, 1933.

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

I have at last gone through
your manuscript of Chinese coins and I
think I have answered all your questions.
If not, let me know. I am herewith return-
ing the manuscript.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

HOWARD D. GIBBS

NUMISMATIST

1400 BELASCO AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA.

September 25, 1933.

Mr. Howland Wood,
c/o American Numismatic Society,
155th and Broadway,
New York, New York.

My dear Howland:

Was hoping that you would be at the American Numismatic Association Convention in Chicago as we had a mighty good gathering there and I believe everyone enjoyed himself.

I am only writing you for some information. Recently there was donated to me from the H. J. Heinz Collection about twenty bronze rings of various sizes, some from China and some from Roman excavations. Among these was one of particular interest. It seems to be a double ring, one band being inside the other. The outside band is punched in a deep square with raised letters with the two letters, "S.C."

Have you any data concerning such an item? Was this used as money, or what was the object of the insignia "S.C." similar to that found on Roman bronze coins? Possibly Mr. Newell would have some information concerning this. Will appreciate your advice.

Very truly yours,



HDG:DEB

could I borrow Jackson or Henderson (or both)
on coins of Mysore and Le Mans new book
on same? Have you any copies for sale.

October 7, 1938.

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Please pardon the delay in answering your letter but I was holding it to speak to Mr. Newell about that ring with S C on it. It was new to him. He said he would like to see it and then could possibly tell you better so will you please send it on to me. Under separate cover I am sending you both Jackson and Henderson as well as Le May's pamphlet.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

HOWARD D. GIBBS

NUMISMATIST

1400 BELASCO AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA.

October 11, 1933.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway between 155th & 156th Sts.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Howland:

Thanks very much for your letter of October 7.

Regarding the Roman ring which I have with the letters
"S C" on it, I am sending it to you under separate cover
and will be glad to have you show it to Mr. Newell.

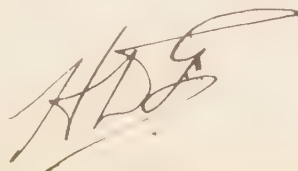
The history of this piece is that the late Howard J. Heinz,
owner of the H. J. Heinz Pickle Company, who before his
death was one of the largest collectors in the world of
antiques specializing on ivories of which he had the great-
est collection in the world. Naturally in his travels over
the world and his contacts with agents picked up many things
that were not exactly in his line. His secretary recently
gave me about twenty bronze rings, part of them from excava-
tions in Roman territory and part from China, and this in-
scribed ring was among them. You will note that unfortu-
nately the outer covering is beginning to split, and if you
have any facilities at the Society building for repairing
this in some way, I would appreciate it if you would as the
outer shell seems to be very thin.

I am advised that the Metropolitan Museum have no record of
any such ring and state that Henkel's "Romische Fingerringe"
lists over two thousand examples of rings but does not refer
to any with this "S C" inscription.

This specimen intrigues me. I wonder whether it was ever
used for money or whether it was a sign of authority given
to some officer of the Roman Senate, and I will be very glad
to hear from you as to what you and Mr. Newell think of it.

Thanks very much for sending me the books I requested. I
will return them very shortly.

Very truly yours,



HDG:DEB

October 18, 1933.

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Your letter of October 11th came promptly to hand stating that you were sending under separate cover the ring with the S. C. on it. Up to date this has not come. Could you have neglected to send it or has it gotten lost in the mail. I hope you insured it. Please look this up.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

HOWARD D. GIBBS
NUMISMATIST
1400 BELASCO AVENUE
PITTSBURGH, PA.

October 21, 1933.

Mr. Howland Wood,
c/o American Numismatic Society,
155th & Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Howland:

I have your letter of October 18 and wish to advise that I am just sending the ring today. It has been packed and ready to go for a week, but I just haven't been able to get to the post office to insure it.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'HDG', with a large, sweeping flourish extending from the end of the signature.

HDG:DEB

694/2

25

44 43

25 57

18 100

October 30, 1933.

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

The package with the ring just at hand. It is not Roman, nor is the mark on it SC but SG. The lettering is of no great age. It is possibly only fifty or sixty years old. It is a "gout" ring, that is made of two different metals, supposed to cause a mild electric current. I will hold it a little while and show it to Newell as you wished me to do.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

November 2, 1933.

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Pittsburgh, Penna.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

I am returning under separate
cover the ring you sent on. I tell you it has
no resemblance to anything Horn and that I
wrote you the other day still holds good.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

HOWARD D. GIBBS

NUMISMATIST

1400 BELASCO AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA.

November 6, 1933.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,

The American Numismatic Society,

Broadway between 155th & 156th Sts.,

New York, N. Y.

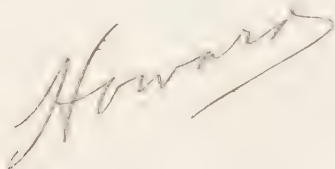
Dear Mr. Wood:

I am very sorry to have bothered you about the Roman ? ring, but my intentions were good. As I explained to you this came from a legitimate source but without any information.

I thank you very much for your kindness just the same.

Yours truly,

HDG:DEB



Will return box tomorrow

HOWARD D. GIBBS

NUMISMATIST

1400 BELASCO AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA.

November 23, 1933.

Mr. Howland Wood,
c/o American Numismatic Society,
155th & Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Howland:

I was called out of town suddenly and did not have time to write you but arranged to have the books returned and hope they reached you in good order. I enclose postage to cover their transportation to me.

May I call on you again for some help? I am anxious to write an article which will be accurate and complete as possible on the crude money of the Aztecs as I have a very complete collection of this material and I am unable to find anything that gives any real information about the subject. If you will be kind enough to let me have whatever books you have on this matter, I will return them as quickly as possible, and if you care to have your assistant go to the trouble of giving me a sketch of the various Aztec items in the Society collection, I will try to send you something for your collection that it is lacking as I have a number of things which I do not believe are to be found in North America. Did you ever see the long chisel-shaped Aztec coin or media that is as thin as paper? I have a number of these which I understand are lacking from the Field Museum and also from the National Museum of Mexico, which I obtained sometime ago direct from the source of excavation.

Have you ever heard that the most valued media of exchange of the Aztecs and also the other Indians of Mexico and Central America was the beautiful tail feathers of the quetzal bird? This important fact was developed recently in Chicago while I was visiting with Frans Blom of the Middle America Research, Tulane University, and Mr. Cramer, archaeologist in charge of the Maya Temple, and I want to develop this angle of the question, too.

Anything you can do to assist me in this investigation will be appreciated and I believe it will be of interest to the Numismatic fraternity in general.

Yours truly,

Howard

December 6, 1953.

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Howard:

Please pardon the delay in acknowledging your last letter but it took us some time to look up various articles on Aztec coins as we did not have them catalogued specifically. I am sending you a number of journals that take up this subject and trust you will find enough to make it worth your while. I have followed these Aztec pieces very little. I have heard that various feathers were highly valued and also that the large obsidian knives had an actual trading value at a fixed rate. Also, that they used gold dust sealed in quills. The only piece that we have is one of the copper pieces an outline of which I am enclosing.

Very truly yours,

HM:JG

Curator

HOWARD D. GIBBS

NUMISMATIST

1400 BELASCO AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA.

December 9, 1933.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway betw. 155th & 156th Sts.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Howland:

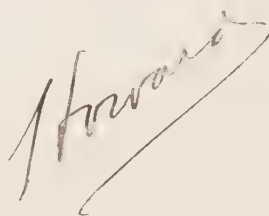
Your very kind letter of December 6 received also the pamphlets which you sent me, and I appreciate it very much as you know the writing of such a monograph as I propose is strictly a labor of love and requires considerable research if it is to be authoritative ~~and~~ ^{if} anywhere near complete. As far as I have yet learned there are no complete nor authoritative works on the subject, and complete and authoritative references must be found scattered over documents and books throughout the world, and I hope to be able to make this worthwhile and I expect to have the cooperation of the Buffalo Museum of Science in my endeavor.

When I return the books and the pamphlets to you in the near future, I will try to enclose one or more specimens which you do not have as I have several hundred varieties in my collection.

You might be interested in knowing that the tail feathers of the quetzal, which are so highly valued, are in my collection including a quetzal bird too.

Kindest personal regards.

Yours truly,



HDG:DEB

PITTSBURGH, PENNA.

1400 Belasco Ave., Pittsburgh

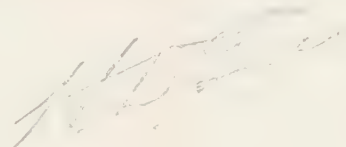
Dear Mr Wood: Was mighty glad to hear from you but sorry to hear that you had been very sick. Hope you are now O.K. I appreciate that you have been all torn up and that it would make it very hard for you.

The Chinese coins I was talking about are not many and at some later time will take the matter up with you. I had one or two rare duplicates that I offered to donate if they were not in the AMS collection but as I never received a reply from Robertson I assumed y you did not want them and disposed of them elsewhere.

I wonder if you would advise me regarding the enclosed piece. Is it a coin or what? The only record I can find is on the plate of Nehl's Star Coin book where he pictures it as an 8 Real piece. Will you please advise promptly as I want to return the coins if not genuine.

With kindest regards and thanking you for your many kindnesses, believe me

Yours sincerely,



January 6, 1934.

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Pittsburgh, Penna.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

The package containing the pamphlets sent you a while ago came to hand yesterday together with the specimen of the Aztec shield. I wish to thank you very much for giving this to the Society. I trust that you are making headway with your work on these Aztec coins.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

HOWARD D. GIBBS

NUMISMATIST

1400 BELASCO AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA.

January 9, 1934.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway betw. 155th & 156th Sts.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Wood:

I hope you will forgive me for not writing you when I returned the books and pamphlets, but being in the coal business at this time of year it very often happens that I don't have a minute, but I was anxious to get the books back to you and expected to write you the same day.

The Society is perfectly welcome to the specimen which I sent you and I will send you ^{some} others ~~one~~ of these days when I get around to it. In fact, there are a lot of things I would like to give to the Society if I were sure that they were not already in its collection.

My monograph is finished and I hope to get it printed shortly, and as soon as this is done, you may be assured that a copy will be sent to you. I believe that I have covered the subject thoroughly and hope that it will be of use and that it will result in further investigation and information.

I want you to know that I appreciate the assistance you have always been ready to give me whenever I need information and books, and I only regret that we live so far apart that it is not possible to visit you from time to time.

Very truly yours,

HDG:DEB



HOWARD D. GIBBS

NUMISMATIST

1400 BELASCO AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA.

March 5, 1934.

*Please return
sketches*

Mr. Howland Wood,
c/o American Numismatic Society,
155th and Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Howland:

In my seeking for information on the Aztec and Mayas I found a source of supply in Mexico and have received from them quite a number of Aztec medias of exchange. After making my own selection I have a number of duplicates left which I promised this party I would try to dispose of as there is considerable difficulty in returning any archaeological specimens to Mexico.

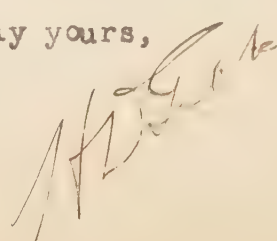
I am enclosing a sketch of a number of these and if the Society would be interested in purchasing any of them, you are welcome to them at cost, which is 20% off the marked price.

Sometime ago in my travels I ran across a Baluba cross from the Belgian-Congo which measured only about 5" each way and which came direct from a missionary in the Belgian-Congo. This was so entirely different from the larger ones which I had that I immediately began investigating, and you may be interested in learning the results. It seems that in the early days a Belgian company began to mine the native copper deposits and some of the natives would steal copper whenever they could, and these small crosses were made from this stolen copper. The reason that the small crosses are so rare is because the usual source of supply for the Baluba crosses was through the missionaries, and the missionaries, knowing that these small crosses were made from stolen copper, will not touch them. For this reason they seldom get out of the country. I was enabled to obtain one of these direct from Elisabethville, Belgian-Congo, and this specimen is less than 6" across.

You might also be interested in learning that I have finally succeeded in obtaining a very fine specimen of the fei or stone money of Yap direct from the Japanese Government.

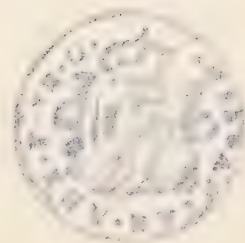
With kindest personal regards, and awaiting your reply, I am

Sincerely yours,



HDG:DEB
Encl.

P.S. I am enclosing a rubbing of a two real piece. Wonder if you can give me any information?



• FERDND • 7 • D • G • ET • CONST • 1822 •

Reveru

• HISPANIAR • REX • P • RR • O •

March 15, 1934.

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

Please pardon me for not answering your letter sooner. It got mislaid under a tray and I only rediscovered it yesterday. We do not at the present time really care to make any outlay on these pieces, as we have been spending a good deal of money of late on a large collection of coins that has been offered us. In fact, we are hard up. Thanks for giving us a chance to buy some of these pieces. The rubbing that you sent along of a two real piece was struck at the Popayan mint in Columbia. It is not rare but might be termed "scarce". Those struck in 1822 were from coarser dies than other years. It is an interesting coin to have.

I am much interested in what you have to say about the small Belgian Congo piece. The story you tell sounds pretty good to me. I suppose you are familiar with Mathis' account of these pieces that appeared for two or three years in the Revue Belge de Numismatique. He took the matter up and illustrated very fully all of these weird coins.

I want to congratulate you on getting one of the Stone pieces from Yap. I have been wanting one of these for several years. Would you mind telling me just how you went about getting yours and also what it cost you to lay down in this country, as well as the size of your piece. Did you get a small one about one foot across or one of the larger ones three or four feet across. Zerbe down at the Chase Bank has five of them. I would really like to get the information about these Yap pieces. If you do not have Mathis' account of the Belgian Congo coins I can lend you a copy.

Very truly yours,

HOWARD D. GIBBS

NUMISMATIST

1400 BELASCO AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA.

March 20, 1934.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway and 155th St.,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Howland:

Thanks very much for your letter of March 15. Regarding the Aztec medias which were sent to me direct from Mexico, and from which I have made my own selection leaving a few duplicates, I do not want to urge on you the purchase of any of these, but if you are interested in having them for the Society, I would suggest that you let me send you on a representative consignment and that you give me credit for the amount, which you can pay at some future time by sending me such duplicates as you may accumulate, subject, of course, to my choice.

It so happens that I know exactly what you mean when you state that you have been spending a good deal of money of late on a large collection of coins which have been offered you, and I do not blame you for taking advantage of this exceptional offer as, confidentially, I am doing the same thing myself.

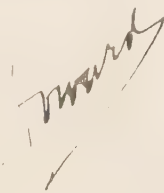
Thanks for the information on the Spanish piece.

You would please me very much if you would send me Mathis' account of the Belgian-Congo coinage and, while you are doing so, I would also appreciate it very much if you would send me a few books containing accounts of any of the African medias of exchange as I am very much interested in this series and always glad to get additional information.

Glad to hear from you at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

HDG:DEB



1922

Feb 5

Memorandum

1924

Feb. 5-6

Mar 1934

COIN DEALERS

CALIFORNIA

Hugo Landecker, 25 Kearny St., San Francisco

ILLINOIS

M. H. Bolender, Orangeville

MARYLAND

John Zug, Bowie

MASSACHUSETTS

Ambrose J. Brown, Box 203 Marblehead

William Hesslein, 110 Tremont Street, Boston

Elmer S. Sears, Swansea

MISSOURI

St. Louis Stamp & Co., 408 Olive Street, St. Louis

NEW YORK

Elder Coin & Curio Co., 8 West 37th St., New York City

Gutttag Bros., 42 Stone St., New York

Rudolph Kohler, 70 Fifth Avenue, New York City

Wayte Raymond, 465 Park Avenue, New York City

Scott Stamp & Coin Co., 1 West 47th Street, New York City

~~*Paul M. Lange, 45-47 Park Reynolds' Arcade, Rochester*~~

March 22, 1934.

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Pittsburgh, Penna.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

I do not think you had better send on a consignment of the stone and bronze Aztec pieces as they were not coins and the question as to whether they could be called money, in the sense that we use at the Society, is open. At the Indian Museum they do not consider them as money though they may have had a trading value, but then nearly everything the Indians had had a trading value. Also in the stone and some of the bronze pieces I can get about anything I want from the Indian Museum. Under separate cover I am sending you various duplicate numbers of the Revue Belge which contain Mathis' account of the Belgian Congo pieces.

Very truly yours,

H.D:JG

Curator

HOWARD D. GIBBS

NUMISMATIST

1400 BELASCO AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA.

March 29, 1934.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway and 155th St.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Howland:

Thanks very much for the Belgian articles on money of the Congo. This is the finest thing of its kind I have seen.

I notice that a number of these did not even have the pages cut, and I am wondering if this is a duplicate set and if there is any chance of purchasing them, and would like to know promptly as otherwise it will be necessary to translate the articles and have the information type-written, and it would also be necessary to have photostatic copies made of the illustrations, and I do not want to do this, unless necessary.

Yours truly,

HDG:DFB

A handwritten signature, likely "HDG", written in dark ink. The signature is stylized, with the letters "H" and "D" being prominent and connected, and a "G" following. There is a horizontal line underneath the signature.

April 4, 1934.

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

The Belgian article on the Congo coins cannot be sold as we are going to bind it up. The reason it was not bound before is lack of funds but that is another story. Why some of the pages were not cut was because I have only looked at it in part and not as a whole. I notice that Spink has in his Numismatic Circular for August-September 1933 page 314, items E5523 a copy bound in one volume for 13 shillings and under E56231 what he calls a second edition with 150 pages bound for seventeen shillings six pence. You might write Spink and see if they have a copy for sale. Zerbe has a copy but of course not for sale but he might tell you where he got it.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

HOWARD D. GIBBS

NUMISMATIST

1400 BELASCO AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA.

April 8, 1934.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway and 155th Streets,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Howland:

Thanks for your letter of April 4. I thought it worthwhile to ask you about the Belgian numismatic circular. I am having the articles translated and will return them within a few weeks.

Will you please drop me a line and advise me if you would like me to have these bound in one volume for you? I would be glad to do so in return for your kindness in sending them to me, but I don't want to do it unless it is agreeable to you to have these particular volumes bound together.

Yours truly,

HDG:DEB



April 12, 1934.

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

I wish to thank you for your kind offer to bind the numbers from the Belgian Numismatic Review but my recollection is that there is one part lacking still and that is why they were not bound. Consequently if that is the case it would not pay to bind them yet. Take your time about sending them back, and get as much use out of them as possible.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

HOWARD D. GIBBS

NUMISMATIST

1400 BELASCO AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA.

Dear Howland:

Greetings. I am taking the liberty of sending you under separate cover a lot of old shaped Chinese and would appreciate your confirmation of my opinion that most if not all are fakes. I don't want them classified, just passed on. Strangely this lot was actually purchased in different parts of China by a very noted collector of ivories, but I am afraid his knowledge of coins was nil. The comb shaped piece is interesting and is the only shape I lack in my own collection and it doesn't look so bad but it don't "feel" right.

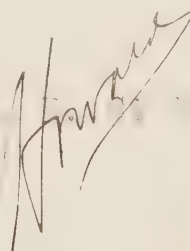
I also enclosed a silver tetradrachm that has no markings and I am sure you can classify if you will. Looks like Bactrian to me but I am no expert on ancient.

You sure cleaned out the pick of Eklunds French coppers although the balance were very nice and I bought most of them. (Don't say anything to him).

Kindest regards and thanking you for your expert assistance

Yours truly,

Postage enc.



May 23, 1934.

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

Your letter and the package of coins at hand. I am sorry to tell you that every one of your pieces is a fake, so much so that there is no question about them. The silver piece is also a fake. In fact no such coin existed. It was probably made in Persia and is an imaginative representation of the early coins of Persis - but even then far fetched. Moreover if you notice carefully the piece is cast and not struck. I am re-turning the coins by parcel post.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

HOWARD D. GIBBS

NUMISMATIST

1400 BELASCO AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA.

June 1, 1934.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, betw. 155 and 156th Sts.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Howland:

Thanks very much for your letter of May 23 and the return of the Chinese fakes. Of course, I advised the party owning these that this is what you would say but in view of the circumstances thought it best to have your confirmation. These specimens belong to Mr. H. J. Heinz who died some years ago and left the greatest collection of ivories in existence, I am afraid that he was an easy mark for a lot of the Oriental dealers as outside of the ivories most of the things which I have seen were questionable.

Thanks also for the information on the cast silver piece. This was picked up in a lot of miscellaneous coins and although it was guaranteed genuine, I accepted it with a grain of salt and am not out any.

Very truly yours,

H. D. Gibbs.

HDG:DEB



Belg books returned this month

HOWARD D. GIBBS

NUMISMATIST

1400 BELASCO AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA.

June 13, 1934.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway and 155th St.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Howland:

I returned the Belgian review of books today and
enclose herewith postage, which I do not believe I
sent before.

Yours truly,

H. D. Gibbs.

HDG:DFB

Encl.

June 18, 1934.

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

The Belgian reviews arrived last week and your letter enclosing postage also at hand. I beg to thank you for both. Let me know if I can give you any more help.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

HOWARD D. GIBBS

NUMISMATIST

1400 BELASCO AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA.

June 22, 1934.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway betw. 155th & 156th Sts.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Howland:

Was glad to get your letter of June 18, and there are several questions I would like to ask you: first, would our Society have the funds and would they be interested in publishing a monograph on the monies and medias of exchange of the Mexican and Central American Indians? Second, would they be interested in publishing a monograph listing all the dynasties, emperors and Nien-Hos of China from 16 A.D. to the beginning of the Republic with an index which supplies a quick-finding list so that any Chinese coin issued in this period can be classified in a few seconds? Aside from these two questions, I would like to ask if you have any books you would recommend as being helpful covering the African medias of exchange ~~and the~~ such as articles of the Belgian-Congo. ~~which~~ you sent me.

I am very much interested in the odd and curious coins and I am gradually getting together a very fine collection and the more I can learn about the various tribes and their older medias, the better I will be in position to go after specimens which I lack.

Will welcome any suggestion and advice you may have to give.

Very truly yours,

H. D. Gibbs.

HDG:DEB

June 25, 1934.

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

At the present time we are accepting only what the Publication Committee considers the more important manuscripts, as our publication fund is just now somewhat restricted and in consequence we are sticking to straight numismatics. You are acquainted with the format which is, as you know, rather small. We have got to print in this size as the money available is for this size only. Also, the way the money was given the material we publish must be original and not compilations from other sources. Of course original material does have much compilation. In other words, have you proved on the Abororiginal stuff that the pieces are money. Besides assembling stuff, have you proved anything new? If you wish you can send on the manuscript and we will look it through.

Now for China. I will admit that something should be done on this subject but to do it right it should include an index of every Far Eastern piece with a Chinese inscription, confining yourself to China alone would only half do the work. That is my feeling on the subject. If the book is built around just the dynastic tables I am afraid it would not fit into our scheme even with an index, unless it really helped on coins. You might send this manuscript on and I will look it through. I am afraid, however, the size of our publication would really be too small for showing the things to best advantage. I do not know of any other publication on African exchange except the one I just sent you. Why not ask Zerbe because he has followed this up more than I have and he might know of some other.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

HOWARD D. GIBBS

NUMISMATIST

1400 BELASCO AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA.

July 5, 1934.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway betw. 155th and 156th Sts.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Howland:

Thank you very much for your letter of June 25. Regarding the question of Aztec and Maya medias of exchange, I believe that this monograph does contain considerable original material and that the bulk of the material therein has never appeared in any publication, in fact from the Numismatic standpoint little except an article now and then in the "Numismatist" has ever appeared, and I have gathered together I believe not only specimens but information which should be published, and I am very glad to send the manuscript on to you for your advice and any suggestions you want to make.

As to the article on China, I agree with you that it should include an index of all the Far Eastern pieces, but there is only one man in America who is capable of writing such a monograph and that man is yourself. As far as the Chinese end of it is concerned, I believe that what I have done serves a useful purpose, and I think when you see this you will agree that it is just as valuable to an expert like yourself, as it would be to a beginner.

There are very few of us in America who can read an Oriental coin, and nine out of ten collectors, even though they own such books as Glover, Lockhart and had access to other information, could attribute a coin without considerable effort, and even though they owned the above mentioned books, it would be necessary to turn over page after page and scrutinize each illustration separately to locate the coin to be classified. With this article of mine, I claim that the veriest amateur can classify any Chinese coin between the years 618 and 1911 within a few seconds, and I am sending you the manuscript to look over.

Please let me make it clear to you that I have absolutely no interest in the publication of either of these monographs except to make available to collectors the information contained therein, and the work entailed in accumulating this information has been a labor of love.

Your frank opinion, suggestions and advice will be gratefully received, and I would like you to return the manuscript as soon as possible;— If you do not think they are proper material for an ANS publication, or not suitable.

Have been obtaining some remarkable specimens lately, which brings to mind another subject. It used to be that you gave me an opportunity to look over the duplicates from your collection. The last few years I have not had this opportunity, and I wish you would tell me honestly and frankly why. As far as I know, I always paid you promptly for anything you were kind enough to send me, and

July 5, 1934.

with my present hook-up I believe that I could be very helpful to the Society collection as I now have contacts in the obscure corners of the world, and there is no private collection I know of, and certainly none in America, which can compare with mine, in the medias of exchange used in Africa, South Sea Is., etc., and I very often have remarkable specimens in duplicate. For instance, I had a visitor last week who has spent a lifetime in Africa capturing animals and snakes and bringing them back alive. Maybe you know him. His name is Guck, and I had the pleasure of meeting him more than a year ago and explaining to him in detail just what I wanted, and when he returned to America this summer he brought back over a hundred specimens of native money carefully labelled and obtained direct from each native village he visited. These include many varieties of small light iron spears (not weapons), which are put up in bundles and were used formerly for buying wives; many varieties of brass and copper rings, and many other native iron specimens, such as Trumbash, etc.

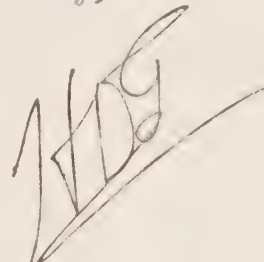
I would be glad to exchange some of my duplicates for any duplicates you might have of any foreign coins that I could use, or if the exchange idea is not attractive, I would be glad to buy them.

I recently received from a museum in Alaska one of the huge copper plates formerly used by the Tlingit, Haida and other tribes, valued at 7500 blankets, and you may recall I wrote an article on the subject sometime ago, and I expect to supplement it with a paper at the next annual convention. This piece is almost 4 ft. long and 3 ft. wide, and weighs close to 80 lbs., consequently it is the largest copper coin in the world.

With kindest personal regards and hoping to hear from you with your frank opinion on the above questions.

Yours truly,

HDG:DEB



PHONES { WALNUT 4636-4637
CARNEGIE 869

Mine Phone FEDERAL 0630
CARNEGIE 1590

MILLER COAL & COKE COMPANY

• • MINERS OF • •

HIGH GRADE DOMESTIC AND STEAM COAL

311 WEST MAIN STREET
CARNEGIE, PA.

July 11th, 1934

Mr. Howard Dunleath Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Beachview, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

Your letter came last night and, of course, it is not time to expect the manuscripts.

The chief reason why we have not sent you any duplicates of late is because we have not had much of anything in this line. Ever since the depression we have received very little in the way of gifts. Although we have bought quite a good many coins, we naturally have bought what we did not have already in our collection. About the only duplicates that we have had in the last few years have been ancient coins - and are poor ones at that. As a matter of fact, I think that we have had no decent duplicate in odd or oriental coins.

I am glad to know that you have been getting so many interesting and odd coins. I might or might not be interested in some of your odd pieces, if you would care to sell them.

I will write you again on receipt of your manuscripts.

Very truly,

Curator

H/B

HOWARD D. GIBBS

NUMISMATIST

1400 BELASCO AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA.

July 11, 1934.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Howland:

A very good friend of mine, a lady in Trenton, N. J., has written me with a rather peculiar request, but as she is very much interested in Numismatics, I would like to be able to help her. Here's what she wants.

She wants to obtain coins or copies of Roman coins, one depicting Nero playing the bagpipe, and one showing the hydraulic organ during Nero's time. This is out of my field and I wonder if you could obtain for me a picture of these two coins, if such exists, with their history or, send me some book which shows pictures of them so that I can have copies made.

She also wants to know if I can obtain these two coins for her, and I wonder if you could advise if they are expensive, and if you know where they could be obtained.

I wrote you regarding the manuscript on Mexican and Central American medias, and the monograph on Chinese classification, and I am mailing you these under separate cover today, and will appreciate your advice.

Yours very truly,

HDG:DEB

Howard

*two coins in female attire
standing figure in female dress
in a lyre*

*crowns coins
of Phrygian origin
standing figure
in a lyre*

July 18th, 1934

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Puttsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

Your manuscripts came to hand yesterday and I have glanced through them, but will report on them later.

With regard to the request about the Hero coins, all I can say is that I have not heard nor can I find any mention of a coin depicting Hero playing the bagpipes, or of one showing a hydraulic organ. The only coin depicting any musical instruments on a piece of Hero's, is a Colonial coin struck in Phrygia, showing the satyr ~~MARCVS~~ playing a double flute. There is also a coin of Hero in female attire standing and singing to his own accompaniment on a lyre.

Very truly yours,

H/B

July 31, 1934.

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Pittsburgh, Penna.

Dear Gibbs:

I am herewith returning your manuscripts. Three of us composing the committee have looked these over and the decision has been reached that we cannot publish these. As regards the Mexican article you have done a very creditable work and this should be on record somewhere. We feel, however, it is too much of a compilation taken from other sources and not enough original material and conclusions. Also, our monographs on account of the small size would make it extremely difficult to illustrate this article adequately.

As regards the Chinese article, we feel that this should be shown on a much larger page than we can offer. Also, to do the thing right the drawings of the characters should be made very carefully from the coins themselves or at least taken from a type coin. The expense of doing it according to our ideas would be at present prohibitive.

Trusting this decision is not a disappointment to you, I beg to remain

Very sincerely yours,

HW:JG

Curator

front tab of original folder

Gibbs, H.D. 1425-1436

March 20, 1935.

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

You may remember that we sent you the Belgian Numismatic Review so you could read and copy the article on the Belgian Congo. We have recently got the missing part and our librarian was assembling it for binding. We find, however, certain plates missing - Plate V, which is a large map in the issue for 1922, and Plates V and VI showing large bronze pieces in the issue of 1924. You stated in your letter you were going to have these photostated. We wish you would look through your things and see if you have mislaid them.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

PITTSBURGH NUMISMATIC MUSEUM

1400 BELASCO AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA. MARCH 25, 1936

H. D. GIBBS
DIRECTOR

Dear Howland:

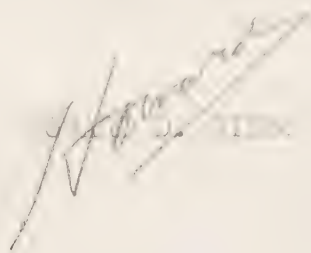
Your letter of the 20th received and I certainly owe you an apology and an explanation.

When you were kind enough to lend me the Belgian Revue I went over it and marked the sections of interest and then turned it over to my daughter for translation as my own knowledge of foreign languages is limited to reading coin catalogues and descriptions. At the same time I selected several plates and the map to be photostated.

I am sorry to say that I got so busy shortly thereafter that when the translations were finished I did not even get a chance to go over them and hadn't seen them from that time to this when I hunted up the notes and found the plates just as they were.

I regret this very much and can assure you that I am sorry that they were not returned with the books themselves as they should have been. I return them herewith and hope this caused you no inconvenience as I appreciate very much your kindness for many years past in giving me the help you always have.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'H. D. Gibbs', is written over a faint, circular postmark or stamp. The signature is slanted and fluid.

March 27, 1935.

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
1400 Belasco Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

Many thanks for your prompt reply to my letter in locating and returning the missing plates for the Belgian Congo article. Inanimate things have a habit of getting misplaced and I had a feeling that this was just what had happened.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

1434 Harris Ave., Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa. Oct 7, 1935

Dear Howland:

Just returned from Buffalo and find the notice of reception next Sunday for the Tri-Boroughs Group and I would like to see the Gang and will if----I can arrange to spend a few hours with you before the reception. Is this possible. Haven't seen you for so long that I am hungry to have a chat with you and have a lot of things I would like to ask you about- and some things I would like to see. Could you meet me at the Society building Sunday morning sometime- have lunch with me and that would give us a couple of hours without interruption?

Please advise so that we can make plans.

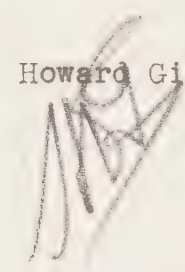
If not inconvenient will you let me have Le May's Books on Siamese coins as I have just received a large collection to look over. Will return promptly or bring it with me.

This has been a banner year for me- have increased my collection by over 15,00 new specimens and it keeps my nose to the grind stone most of the time. Particularly want to talk to you about media as I am building what I believe to be the most complete collection of such material, particularly South Sea Islands and Native African and often have duplicates that I would like to pass on to the Society some as gifts and some in trade or for sale where they run into money.

Hope to see you Sunday and will await your prompp reply.

Sincerely,

Howard Gibbs



October 8, 1935. .

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
1434 Harris Ave.
Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

Your letter just at hand and I will
be at the museum about eleven o'clock Sunday
morning and will be glad to see you then, as
we reasonably will see one another shortly
I will make this letter short as I have many
others to write.

Very truly yours,

HW: JG

Curator

1434 Harris Ave., Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa. Oct 14, 1935

Dear Howland:

Thanks for a very interesting and informative afternoon. Only sorry that I couldn't have more time with you alone but half a loaf is better than none.

You were kind enough to promise me a number of items which I will value very much and if you will send these on at your convenience I will appreciate the favor. They were

One of the two longer twisted iron pennies of Tonba, Ivory Coast or if you prefer the one from Sampouyara, Kissi.

One of the odd shaped shorter iron pieces at the bottom of these case from Konian Circle of Beyla of which you have two.

One of the tortoise shell rings from Sanata Cruz Group.

One or two of the Pearl Shell rings from same.

I.O.U. a balance for duplicates of \$9.60

I am sending you under separate cover the following pieces. In order that you may have some idea of their value I am marking them with the price at which they have all been sold heretofore to Zerbe, Buffalo Museum etc. included in this price (confidential) is 20 % to cover my profit, handling, postage etc. which comes off. This is not the price but merely to give you a yardstick and you can price the specimens you are so kindly letting me have accordingly.

1. Twisted Iron Penny of Kissidougou and Freetown District, Sierra Leone. Gizzi Tribe \$3.00
2. Similar piece but longer from Konokry, French Guinea, West Africa. Both these specimens came direct to me from officers of the French Occidentale Company. 3.00
3. Gaboon District, French Equatorial Africa Bundles of hammered iron rods (about 100) called "Mimbass" note these are somewhat similar to the small bundles of miniature iron weapons you have 8.00
4. Flat Iron Plate with small tip at one end called "Ensuba" used by Makai Tribe, Doume, French Camerouns. Rare 10.00
5. Iron Spear Shaped Money of KaKa Tribe, French Cameroun usually put up 6 to a bundle. Note these were never weapons- long shank, thin easily broken. Used only for buying. 10.00

If these interest you, and you will send me the above I am willing to call it square leaving the balance stand as a donation to the A.N.S.

Later, if you are interested I can obtain a Baluba Cross, Belgium Congo, Feather Stick Money, Vanikoro Islands, Santa Cruz Group.

Over.

Thanks a lot for the loan of the books which I will return in a few days.

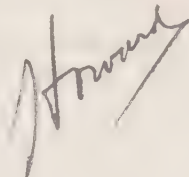
Really enjoyed seeing you and wish we were not so far apart.

Keep me in mind anytime that duplicates show up, particularly anything odd and curious, or media. Also Oriental, Cut , Counter-stampd, etc.

Drop me a line when you have time and I will be anxiously awaiting the specimens your so kindly promised me. Can you think of anything else that your collections needs that I might supply. Have thousands of odd and curious media of Africa and South Seas that I wish you could see sometime.

Kindest regards:

Howard Gibbs.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Howard', with a long, sweeping diagonal stroke extending from the bottom right of the name.

October 17, 1935.

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs
1454 Harris Avenue
Crafton, Pittsburgh, Penna.

Dear Gibbs:

Your letter came the other day and the package today. I would like to keep all of the pieces that you sent. I am sending you by parcel post one of the long iron spits and one of the shorter ones, also one of the pearl shell rings. The Tortoise shell I didn't say you could have - they are different and they also come from a collection from which we can sell or swap nothing. To repay I am in your debt something. I am sending you that curious bunch of copper castings that you wanted and make them a little less, so as to even up. I would like to get one of those Balube crosses. If you have good specimens of the four and two Morevati pieces struck by Charles and Johanna of Mexico I wish you would send them on to the Ograph as I want to illustrate them in Dr. Pradon's book. If you have Guttag's book "Latin American Coins" they are Nos. 2429-2435 and 3436.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

1434 Harris Ave., Crafton, Pittsburgh, Penna. Oct. 21, 1955

Dear Howland:

Thanks for your letter of the 17th and the specimens which you sent and which were very welcome. Sorry you couldn't part with the tortoise shell but that is OK. I understand that in some cases you are limited.

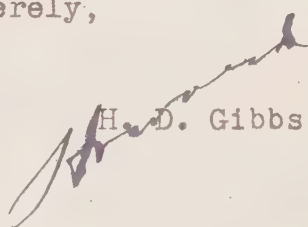
Now I want to make you a proposition. As far as I know there are very few Baluba crosses in this country. Zerbe and I have them, a few Museums. The only records of sales I have are that I paid the Buffalo Museum \$45.00 for one which was a duplicate from the Smithsonian Inst. Col. Zerbe had one several years ago that he offered me for \$50. Wayne Raymond sold one I believe at private sale for \$45.

Send me the box of African castings and I will send you a fine Baluba Cross received direct through Rev. Burton in the Belgium Congo. This should be attractive.

In a few days I will send you all the specimens of the Chas. & Joanna coppers of Mexico. I do not believe there exists better specimens than these and they are all different dies. I am not quite sure about the two mar. piece as I haven't had time to look as they are at one house while I live at another. I do know that I have two different sizes but am not sure about the denominations. I do not have Guttags Book but would like to buy one.

Please let me hear from you at your convenience. Will return the LeMay books shortly and the article on Omdurmann as soon as I can copy it.

Sincerely,


H. D. Gibbs.

October 28, 1935.

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
1434 Harris Avenue
Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

Pardon me for not replying to your letter sooner but I have ^{been} ~~away~~ or absolutely tied up with editorial work. I would be glad to accept your offer concerning exchanging those castings of wild animals etc. for a Baluba Cross and I am having the box sent to you and looking forward to seeing your copper coins of Mexico of Charles and Joanna. The very rare one is a little smaller than the four Harveidi piece and has on one side a single column with Plus Ultra running across the column and an M below it. On the other side is a large three towered castle.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

Dear Howland:

Many thanks for the 34 var. African Brasses which are very acceptable for my collection.

I send you today by express prepaid

4 Varieties Mexico 4 Mar. Chas & Joanna

I note that there are two sizes as I said but they are all 4 Mar. and there is no 2 in my collection. must be rare as I never heard of it before you mentioned it.

1 Baluba Cross, Belgium Congo. This is a fine specimen and came to me direct from a missionary who is still there. I have a dozen or more letters in my file from missionaries in this Congo District who have heard of these but never saw one so they really are uncommon.

2 Books on Siam by Le May kindly loaned me. Many thanks.

You can return the Mexican coins when you are through with them. Believe you will find them unusually fine.

Now I have something else to offer. I was a collector many years before I ever obtained a large Baluba Cross but there is something much harder to get. In the Belgium Numismatic Revue which you kindly loaned me some time ago is a picture of a very small cross H in shape. If I recall correctly their specimen was damaged. Since that time I have carried on correspondence with more than fifty missionaries, government officials, traders, travelers etc. to see if such a specimen could be obtained. I learned that a few of these were found in the famous Zimbabwe ruins and one man who had a mission near there promised me to offer a reward to any native who located any and turned them over to him. A few weeks ago I received the entire find of 12 of these which are as per sketch enclosed except that there was no duplicate of the larger.

Have you something in the way of odd or curious money that you could spare? Africa, South Sea Islands, Orient. Would there be any chance be a duplicate of one of the large base metal bullets of Siam among the new lot you purchased. Think this over and let me know. I believe this small cross is priceless. None in any collection in America and I haven't yet located any in Europe altho I haven't heard from the B.M. as yet. I would like the Society to have one but since I can get a big price for any I care to sell and have only one or two that I care to part with I would like to add something to my collection in exchange.

Re: The Tortoise Shell rings which you had and which are from a collection that cannot be broken into. Would it be possible to exchange one of these for a different size? I have a different size from the same Group and I believe your are about the same so that mine would really be better.

Many thanks for your help and courtesy. I received Eklund's collection of over a thousand Swedish poletter tokens- many beauties including several birch bark, bone, wood, sealing wax etc. and No. 11 Baron de Goertz daler, struck in Germany, exc. rare. (Tell Robbie as he seemed to doubt that I owned this collection). Regards

Sincerely,

Howard Gibbs

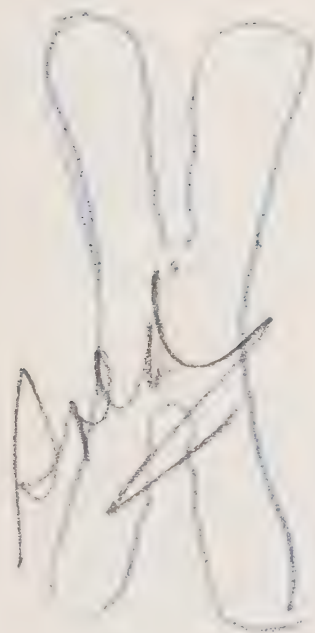


Money of the Belgium Congo

Copper crosses of all sizes from very small to twelve inches across are the oldest money of this District. These were in circulation long before the Baluba Tribe came from Tanganyika about 1800. Many have been found in the famous Zimbabwe Ruins along the Lualaba River. These very small ones are extremely rare and are found buried in small clay pots (see pictures) As far as I can learn this find is the first one that has been ever sent "outside". The Belgium Numismatic Revue pictured one of these but my recollection is that it was broken. This lot was found at Lunkongo 7° .40' South 26° 30' East.

Natives also used large translucent beads called "bibubu" small red beads (very rare) called "bilungumanda", small blue beads called "itundu ya Kabondo" and large blue beads called "itundu ya Kanalsuda". All these, along with the crosses, were used in buying wives. Other media with definite standards of value were: "Omama Shells" from Tanganyika (now almost disappeared), called "Masuaba", in Labinda cloth of raphia fiber called "adiba" (still used extensively), strips of Zebra hide, "Mweyeye string, brass and iron wire, crude drilled shells, arrow poison, arrow heads, spears, iron axes and hoes. The highest valued of all was the feathers of a stork like bird called "Linda". The price of a wife was computed at a cross, so many small crosses, a string of 30 matched "bibubu" beads, so many sheep, a necklace of five "omama shells" etc. This direct from a missionary who has been there for many years.

H. D. Gibbs



\$25.00



\$20.00



\$15.00



\$10.00

Set of 4 \$50.00

November 21, 1935.

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
1434 Harris Ave.
Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

Please pardon my not answering your last letter but I had nothing really to say at the time. I have just photographed your Mexican four carved pieces and will return them in a few days. I have given quite a little thought to those other four crosses you mentioned but as we are not terribly concerned in getting all varieties of primitive money and as our funds are low I think I will pass these by. Thanks, however, for the offer. We have not a single thing in odd shaped pieces in duplicate. I have gone through all in the Siamese pieces but as everyone is different I do not want to let any of them go. All of the pieces we have had for sometime and two or three of which are nearly alike unfortunately for you have been photographically recorded so that they cannot go out of the museum. As for the tortoise shell ring will you let me know whether yours is larger or smaller. You might send me a tracing of it.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

1434 Harris Ave., Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa. Nov. 26, 1935

Dear Howland:

Thanks for your letter of the 21st. Was beginning to fear that my coins had not reached you. No hurry about their return.


Concerning the small copper crosses I would like you to have at least one of these as they are excessively rare. Schulman writes me that they are very much so. If you say the word I will send you one and you can simply credit my account and then some day when you have some duplicates I can use we can make a swap. The Tortoise shell rings which I have are much smaller than yours, about the same diameter but narrower and thinner. Mine came from the Tyrell Museum Australia from a very fine collection of South Sea Island material. Would be glad to send it on for you to see.

I am enclosing herewith a photo of a silver piece owned by a man in Akron who wants to sell it to me. Claims it to be an Aztec coin- which of course is very doubtful but it may be a medal- looks quite old and claims came from a Spanish family who have had it since Cortez invasion- but has no documents to prove this claim. Have you any information on a similar piece.

Do you by any chance have a duplicate of the small silver piece of Ethiopia with a large crown on the obv. I noticed you had a couple in your display when I was there, also any of the small silver coins of Aksum or Harrar.

Regards.

Howard Gibbs



December 6, 1935.

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs
1434 Harris Ave.
Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

Your letter came while I was away for a week. It does seem as if I was most dilatory in answering your letters. You might send on that cross with what you want for it as the chances are rather slim about making a trade. At the same time you might send on one of those tortoise shell pieces and I will consider whether I can substitute it or not for one of those we have.

The photograph of the so-called Aztec money is an out-and-out fake. These came on the market ten or twenty years ago and I have listed over a half-dozen varieties. They were all cast and are pure and simple fabrications. I have no duplicate of that Ethiopian piece. We have two but I bought the second one a few years ago so as to show both sides. We have no duplicates of the Harrar or Aksum pieces. The Aksum come in gold and silver and are extremely rare, especially in silver. The Harrar pieces are virtually unknown except those we have here. They came from a Frenchman who was at Harrar with the French Fashoda Expedition.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

1434 Harrison Ave., San Francisco, California, Ca. Dec. 10, 1935

Dear Howland:

Thanks for your kind letter of the 6th. Glad the Spanish-Mexican coins arrived OK. There is no hurry about their return as long as I know they arrived OK.

Will send you shortly one of each size of the small crosses. These are really extremely rare. Take your pick and credit my account. Something will come along one of these days and we can make it up. Return any you do not want as Schulman wants them.

Will also send one of the tortoise shell rings and hope you can let me have one of the different size.

Keep me in mind when anything comes along that might be of interest.

Regards

Howard Gibbs

A stylized, handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, sweeping 'H' followed by a smaller, cursive 'G'.

1434 Harris Ave., Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa. Dec. 13, 1935

Dear Howland:

I am sending back by separate cover the phamplet on the Coins of Omdurmann for which I thank you most kindly.

Could you have your Librarian now send me some book or books that will help to classify Chinese Temple Coins and Medals.

I also send three sizes of the rare Baluba Crosses. Take one or all add give me dredit for one half the amount- the other you can consider a donation. We can use the credit later as the opportunity presents itself.

Merry Christmas and Happ New Year. Sincerely

Howard Gibbs

December 21, 1935.

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
1434 Harris Avenue
Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

I have not answered your last letter as I was waiting for your package containing the small crosses. I suppose you are waiting until after the Christmas rush which is just as well. We still have charged against you the Coinage of the Mahdi and supplement by H. S. Job. I am simply reminding you of this as possibly you have overlooked it.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

1434 Harris Ave., Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa. Dec. 27, 1935

Dear Howland:

Presume you have received the Congo crosses and the Book on Coins of the Mahdi and Khalifa.

I enclose herewith the Tortoise Shell Ring Money which is somewhat different than yours. If satisfactory to you I would be glad to have one of the larger rings you have in exchange as we would both then have different varieties.

You may be interested in learning I have purchased the entire Oriental collection of Commodore W.C. Eaton who spent a life time in China and Japan. Have not yet had time to do anything with the collection but will have some fine duplicates later.

The thought strikes me that I should make a request of you. It is this. Some day I trust and hope the John Reilly collection will be the permanent property of our Society- that is where it belongs. When this day comes it will mean that many of the Chinese and other Orientals already in the A.N.S. Collections from the Po and other collections will be duplicates. Would it be possible to have your agreement that when this takes place you will give me first chance to purchase such duplicate specimens before they are all picked over? A word from you on this subject would be pleasing to me.

Happy New Year and the best of wishes.

Sincerely,

Howard D. Gibbs

January 4, 1936.

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
1434 Harris Ave.
Crafton, Pittsburgh, Penna.

Dear Gibbs:

Your various communications at hand including the small Paluba Crosses, the tortoise shell piece and the books on the Sudan by Job. In these books you evidently sent, which you did not mean to, your notes on the Sudan coins. I am herewith returning these. I will let you know about the other items in a day or so. I have been snowed under with work and now have my annual reports to do so please pardon the delay.

Very truly yours,

H:JG

Curator

1434 Staris Ave., Crofton - Pittsburgh Pa 1/9/34

Howard:

Can you classify this for me? Thank

JHG:lt

1434 Harris Ave., Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa. Jan. 14, 1936

Dear Howland:

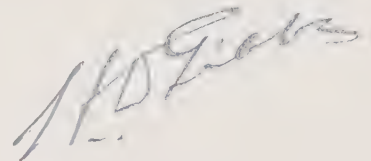
Have just returned from Hamilton, N.Y. where I picked up the old Commodore W.C.Eaton collection of Chinese and other Orientals made over 40 years ago. Quite nice with several hundred odd shaped pieces and some real gems. Something over 5000 var. altogether.

Don't forget to write me when you get time on the proposition I suggested on your Chinese collection if you eventually own the Reilly Collection.

I stopped off in Buffalo to visit my good friend Stuart Mosher, 10 Jewett Parkway who has been very active in numismatics in that city, acting in an advisory capacity to the Buffalo Museum of Science, Chairman of various Hobby and Coin Shows, writing a daily column for the papers, etc. I was pleased to learn that he has been talking to Wayne Raymond and expects to go to New York about Feb. 1 to act as Associate Editor of the Journal as well as to handle the selling of foreign coins. May I ask you to give Stuart a welcome to your City and help him with you good advice. This young fellow has a very pleasing personality, likes coins and will appreciate any help extended him. He does not have the idea that he is a great writer, or that he knows all about coins. On the contrary he is rather inclined to depreciate his knowledge and is most anxious to learn. I am sure you will like him and while I know every minute of your days are busy hope you will give him a hand when you can.

Glad to hear from you when you can spare time from your rush to write me. Regards.

Howard



PS Don't forget the tortoise shell ring some day.

H. D. GIBBS,
1434 Harris Ave.,
Crafton, Pgh., Pa.

February 3, 1936.

Mr. Howland Wood
c/o American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 155th St.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Howland:

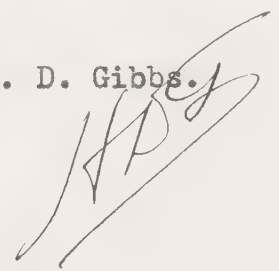
I judge that like myself you are very busy, which accounts for the fact that I received a good many days ago a box containing:

1 small Baluba Cross
The return of 4 Mexican quarter real pieces
The return of the Tortoise Shell Ring money
The return of the Gold coin I sent you for classification.

Sorry that you did not find it possible to exchange the smaller Tortoise Ring for one of the larger ones in your collection. As soon as you can find time, would you please drop me a line telling me what the gold coin was that I sent you?

Yours very truly,

H. D. Gibbs.



HDG:DEG

H. D. GIBBS
1434 Harris Ave.,
Crafton, Pgh., Pa.

February 11, 1936.

Mr. Howland Wood,
c/o The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway between 155th & 156th Sts.,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Howland:

Thanks very much for your recent note with copy of letter of January 15, which, I am very sorry to say, I never received.

I doubt if there will be many duplicates from the Eaton Collection which would interest you as except for the later round cash and the commoner early pieces, the collection dove-tailed very well with my own.

Thanks very much for your word on the Reilly collection, and I will appreciate it very much if this collection does finally land in your possession permanently if you will remember to give me first chance at the duplicates from the present society collection.

Stuart Mosher is now settled in New York as you no doubt know, and you will undoubtedly be seeing quite a bit of him. He is a regular fellow and I am sure you will like him.

Sorry about the tortoise shell piece, but that is o.k. We cannot always get what we want. Whenever you do have anything along the line of unusual specimens in duplicate, keep me in mind and I will do the same. I would also appreciate it if when you have material offered to you at your museum which you cannot use, if you will refer anything of interest to me.

The party whose name you gave me and who had a collection of Siamese porcelain tokens has never answered my letter, although it was not returned. I recently received over 800 varieties of these tokens from Siam, which gives me a fairly representative collection with what I already had.

Received the check for twenty dollars for the Balumba crosses, but did not expect you to pay for them. I would have been just as well satisfied had you credited me with this amount against some future transactions.

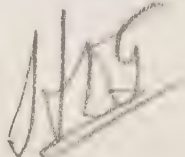
Thanks for the information on the gold coin.

I do not have any record of ever having received any information from you on books of the Chinese temple coins, but if there is nothing available, I will just have to struggle along as best as I can.

With kindest personal regards and hoping to have the pleasure of seeing you soon, I am

Yours very truly,

HDG:DEG



February 17, 1936.

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
1434 Harris Ave.
Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

I met Stuart Mosher the other night and was much pleased with him. I am very sorry I wrote you concerning books on Temple coins. We have nothing here worthwhile. There is no one book on the subject and where they are taken up, except in isolated instances, do not tell anything about the pieces. The material is so scanty that we have ceased to try to find out anything about them as it appears to be a waste of time. That was the reason I sent you no books. I cannot understand why you never received my letter of January 15th. Don't be surprised that you got such a quick answer!

Very truly yours,

HM :JG

Curator

1434 Morris Ave., Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa. Mar 17, 1936

Dear Howland:

Can you tell me anything about the enclosed piece?

New to me

Thanks, Regards

H. D. Gibbs



March 19, 1936.

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
1434 Harris Ave.
Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

The piece you sent on and which I am returning is one of the so-called Aztec coins flooding the market a few years ago. They are absolutely fakes and come in about a dozen varieties.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

1434 Harris Ave., Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa. May 1, 1936

Dear Howland:

Was sorry you were out of town when I called last week as I would like to have had a little visit with you.

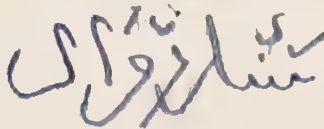
Had a good time in New York and as usual picked up more stuff than I could afford.

Wonder if you will give me some information on a crown sized silver piece that is new to me. Almost looks like a medal.

Crown Size Good Silver. Obv. A lion facing left, a crescent above,
KAHEL below.

Reverse. in English FOUTAH*DJALON.1879.

in center



Appreciate your advice as I have this on approval at \$15.00 and don't want to get stuck if it isn't desirable.

Regards.

H. D. Gibbs.



May 6, 1936

Mr. H. D. Gibbs,
1434 Harris Ave.,
Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Howard:

I was away when your letter came.

I have never seen the piece you describe and I very much doubt if it is a coin. Foutah Djallon is a district in Africa, I think, somewhere in the interior between Liberia and Sierra Leone. I wish you would send me a rubbing of it - possibly I can then tell better what it is.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

H. D. GIBBS,
1434 Harris Ave.,
Crafton, Pgh., Pa.

May 11, 1936.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway betw. 155th and 156th Sts.,
New York City, N. Y.

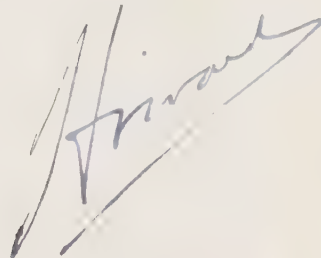
Dear Howland:

Thanks very much for your letter of May 6. I enclose herewith a rubbing of the coin in question, and regret that I neglected to do so in my first letter.

Any information you can give me on this will be appreciated as I do not want to purchase it at a high price if it is only a medal.

Yours very truly,

HDG:DEG



P.S. your rec'd - Society is quite welcome.
would do more if I knew just what interested
you. Send me back the small Baluba cross
or a careful sketch and I will send you
another Regi. picture

H

May 12, 1938

Mr. H. Dunleath Gibbs,
1434 Harris Ave.,
Crafton, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

We have just received from Mr. Charles H. Fisher an Ecuador sucre which he says was purchased by you and which you very kindly donated to this Society.

Again I wish to thank you for your kind thoughts for our organization and was sorry not to have seen you when you were here a while ago.

Things have been coming in slowly and nothing more has come in that would interest you. I still have my eyes open for anything that you may want.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

May 18, 1936

Mr. H. D. Gibbs,
1434 Harris Avenue,
Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Howard:

Many thanks for sending the rubbing on to me. I am more convinced than ever that it is not a coin. The Arabic on it is faulty. I really think it is just a medal. I certainly would not pay the price that is being asked for it.

I am enclosing herewith sketches of the Baluba crosses that we have.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks
ENCL.

H. D. GIBBS,
1434 Harris Ave.,
Crafton, Pgh., Pa.

June 1, 1936.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway betw. 155th & 156th Sts.,
New York City, N. Y.


Dear Howland:

I am sending you herewith what I think is a different size of the
Baluba cross, which please accept for the Society Collection with my
compliments.

Thank you very much for your advice on the silver medal.

Yours very truly,

HDG:DEG
Encl.



June 10, 1936

Mr. H. D. Gibbs,
1434 Harris Ave.,
Crafton, Pgh, Pa.

Dear Howard:

Your favor with the two new Baluba crosses at hand. These are intermediate between the two we already have and in behalf of the Society I wish to thank you for your generosity.

Nothing new has transpired here nor anything worth while has come in.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

June 12, 1936

Mr. H. D. Gibbs,
1434 Harris Avenue,
Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Howard:

We had sent in to us the other day a number of coins from a large hoard found on the Island of Mafia, issued by the Sultans of Kilwa, who were located in East Africa, just south of Zanzibar. They are coins of the 14th and 15th centuries. Although poor, nearly all the hoard was in this condition.

Please accept these with our compliments.

Very truly yours,

Carfax

HW ks
ENCL.

1434 Harris Ave., Crafton, Penna.(Pittsburgh, Pa.). June 16, 1936

Dear Howland:

Thanks a lot for the coins of Kilwa which were new to me. Appreciate your thoughtfulness in remembering me.

Will send you from time to time a few odd and curious media to build up that section of the Society collection as I have contacts all over Africa and South Seas.

Any time anything comes along of interest keep me in mind.

Just got back from the Tri-State Convention at Jamestown NY Had a very nice week end.

Regards.

Howard

PS: Note Fisher makes a remark about some coin or medal in his next sale that you do not have it. Will you check this and advise if you would care to have me buy it for the Society. There are many times I would be glad to buy things and donate them if I knew you wanted them just as I did at his last sale when he dropped word that you were bidding. No use me bidding against you as it either means you lose out if I want it bad enough or else I run you up unnecessarily. Advise.

1434 Harris Ave., Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa. June 30, 1936

Dear Howalnd:

Sent you today an "Ensuba" literally "Wife Purchasing Money" Iron Flat Plate with Tag attached. Please accept with compliments of the writer for the Society Collection.

Did not hear from you in reply to my last letter so presume you were away or not interested in anything from Fisher's last Sale. Prices were very high on most of the stuff.

By the way did you see the Chinese "Comb" piece Elder had in his last Sale. I bid on it but did not hear anything from him. Was it genuine do you happen to know.

Was fortunate in picking up a set of Glover (3 Vol), LeMay's Tschoth Chinese, Mahieu on Belg-Congo Money.

Keep me in mind whenever anything turns up. The gentleman you referred to me Mr. Higgins from Worcester Mass has turned into a very interesting character, very nice correspondence and I have been able to add considerable to their Museum collection.

Will send you more specimens as duplicates turn up. Regards

Howard Gibbs

July 2, 1936

Mr. Howard Gibbs,
1434 Harris Ave.,
Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Howard:

Many thanks for the Ensuba. It is quite a little different than one of similar shape we have. Naturally we are pleased to get it.

The reason you did not hear from me concerning the Fisher sale was because I did not see the catalogue as Robertson looked this over and I could not find the bids he sent if any. Robertson at the time was away but I thought he would be back any day. However, the thing is past now.

I did not see the Chinese piece in Alder's sale. As a matter of fact I have not been in his office for years.

You certainly were fortunate in picking up the Glover catalogues. They are extremely hard to get hold of.

I thought that you and Higgins might be able to do business and I am glad to know that you have. Absolutely nothing has come in here lately.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

HOWARD D. GIBBS

NUMISMATIST

1434 HARRIS AVE., CRAFTON, PITTSBURGH, PA.

November 19, 1936.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway and 155th St.,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Howland:

Haven't heard from you for some time, and a number of questions arise on which I would like to have you advise me.

First, I understood Robertson to say that you were lacquering all your coins. Was this correct, and (a) Are you first cleaning all the coins? (b) What kind of lacquer are you using? (c) Would you advise this process being used on copper and silver, and on proof coins?

Have you any duplicates at all that would interest me?

I have two very unusual iron pieces from the French Cameroon District. One is a flat, paddle-shaped piece, about a foot long and four inches wide, called "ensuba", which were usually exchanged five in a bundle. These are comparatively modern being used up until fifteen to twenty-five years ago. They sell for ten dollars each. Zerbe got a couple of these sometime ago for the Chase Collection.

Then I have another extremely rare piece of very curious shape, about two feet long and three or four inches wide, shaped somewhat like the drawing on the back of this letter. The party who brought these out has been searching for genuine native specimens for me for a number of years, and in the fifteen trips he has made through the Cameroons he states he has never found but four of these. The value of this is about twenty-five dollars.

I would like to see these two specimens go into the Society Collection and will be glad to donate one half their value, if the other half could be taken out in exchange for something unusual that I do not have. I have in mind, particularly, one of the crude uninscribed copper bars of Ceylon, of which I believe you have more than one approximately alike, or a duplicate of one of the early Siamese bullet coins in base metal.

By the way, there is one other specimen which I am not quite sure you have received from me, and that is a bundle of about 75 to 100 small hammered iron rods in the shape of miniature weapons, called "mimbas". These are worth about ten dollars a bundle.

Will you give this matter consideration and see what you can locate for me?

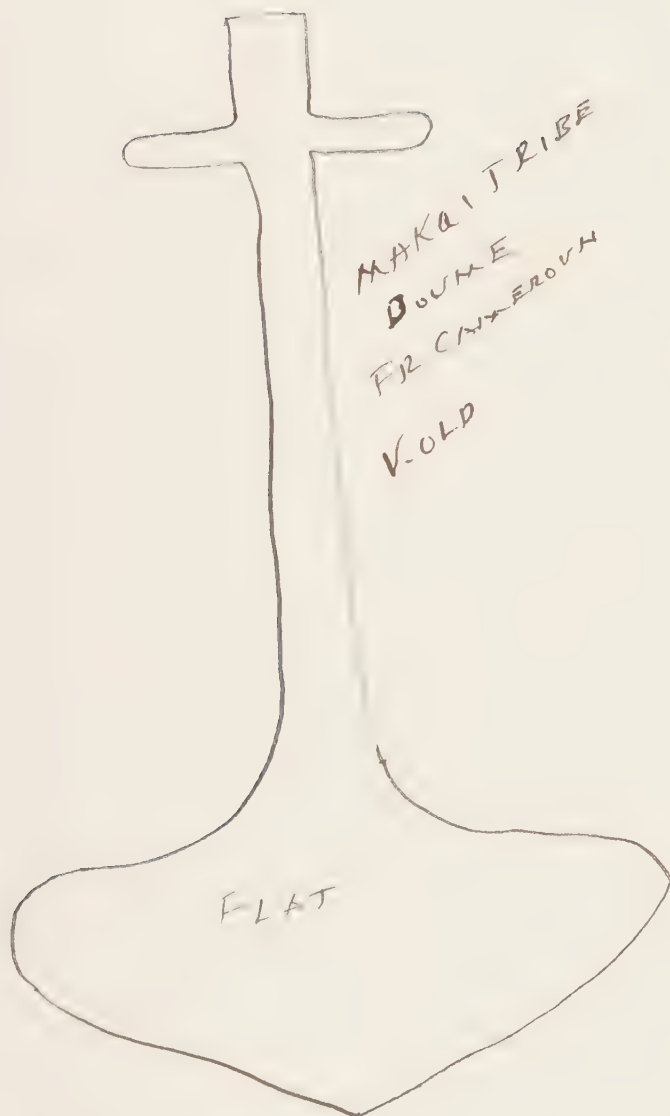
Is there such a thing as a standard catalogue on the Siamese glass and metal pee and porcelain gambling tokens? I now have about 2200 varieties, but I have no specific way of listing or classifying them.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

HDG:DEG

Howard



Bumala
75-100

Drawn from memory specimen over at other
line - may not be exact

November 24, 1936

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs,
1434 Harris Avenue,
Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Howard:

One reason you have not heard from me is because we have gotten nothing in that would interest you and in fact we have gotten very little in.

We lacquer nowadays all of our silver coins as they come in. We first clean them, generally using the electric bath to do so. For a lacquer we use Zapon Duranite B. We dilute this about half way with their Thinner #21. We got this this lacquer from the Zapon Division, Atlas Powder Company, Stamford, Conn. They also have a branch at Detroit.

So far we have not used it on copper. We use it on proof silver coins.

We have two of the ensubas, one you sent us a while ago. It possibly is a little larger than the one you describe but the shape seems to be the same. At the present moment our buying funds are absolutely at a low ebb because we have been spending more than we have taken in and we do not know just how we stand until after the first of the year. I think those crude copper bars you mention are for the Laos states north of Siam as I know of no bars uninscribed for Ceylon. We have two of these, but they are different, one much longer than the other. So far I have not found a single duplicate among the Siamese base bullet money.

A while ago you did send us a bundle of small hammered iron rods.

There is no standard catalogue on Siamese glass and porcelain gambling tokens. Ramsden, some years ago, got out a book with colored illustrations of these but he saw that he was running into more money than he had anticipated and included less than a quarter of those that he had. In this book he simply describes the pieces but does not translate the inscriptions nor does he date or properly classify them. Although I have the book I have never used it.

Very truly yours,

Curator

Howland Wood

Gilobs, H. D.

1937

HOWARD D. GIBBS
NUMISMATIST

1434 HARRIS AVE., CRAFTON, PITTSBURGH, PA.

Feb. 1, 1937.

Mr. Howland Wood,
c/o American Numismatic Society,
Broadway and 155th,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Howland:

Thanks very much for forwarding my letter to Dr. Martini.
Was very much interested in his interpretation of the
symbols on the North Siam Pack-Saddle pieces.

I am taking the liberty of sending you under separate
cover three Siamese pieces recently sent me from Siam on
which I would like your opinion as to their authenticity.

Was very sorry to hear that Robert Robertson died recently.

Have you anything new or anything desirable available that
would be of interest to me?

Kindest personal regards.

Yours very truly,

HDG:DEG



Feb. 5, 1937

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs,
1434 Harris Ave.,
Crafton, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

Your letter came to hand the other day and the package today. I have carefully looked these over and to be frank with you, I do not like them. All of the pieces we have and we have some of just the same things, show the counterstamps stamped in. These are castings, showing that these castings were made from pieces already counter-stamped. This is especially noticable on the piece without the elephant. It looks to me as if they were faking these. The metal, however, seems to be very good and they do have an ancient look. Possibly they are all right but I would never be satisfied with them.

The large 20 tical piece does not look good to me. I have only seen one of these and this was at least 30 years ago and then through a glass window. But I have a vivid recollection that it was made in exactly the same way as the small ticals. Your piece is a casting that has been filed smooth and polished, then the stamps have been stamed in. But I do not like the looks of these stamps. They do not look Oriental or at least not old. It looks to me as though somebody copied the style and design from the fiat coinage of 1860. All I can say on this score is that I would not care about owning this piece.

We have nothing new that would interest you. There is a man out in Montana who is anxious to dispose of a collection of Chinese copper coins ranging up to 200 cash. He has about 200 of them and I presume most of them are of the modern struck kind. His name is Chas. K. Green, Coram, Mont., and if the spirit moves you, you might write him.

Very truly yours,

HOWARD D. GIBBS

NUMISMATIST

1434 HARRIS AVE., CRAFTON, PITTSBURGH, PA.
1400 Belasco Ave., Beechview, Pgh., Pa.

April 5, 1937.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
155th and Broadway,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Howland:

I am offered a Washington medal for seventy-five dollars and can find no record in any of my books and do not know if this price is reasonable or otherwise.

This is a gold medal in an oval medallion, has a soldier wearing a continental uniform with date 1775 below. On the reverse of the medallion is a bust of Washington with "Sons of the Revolution" above and "1883" below. The medallion is enclosed in an scalloped frame bearing around the edge 13 stars in gold with a background of blue. Above the medallion is an American eagle. The whole is suspended from a ring in a blue and white ribbon.

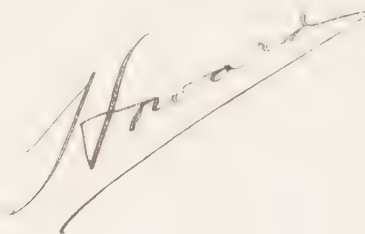
The back of the medal is engraved with the name of F. B. Neilson, U. S. Army, and is numbered 2819.

The medal seems to be of high grade gold and is very attractive. The whole question hinges on its value.

Will you be kind enough to give me any information you can?

Yours very truly,

HDG:DEG



April 9, 1937

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs,
1400 Belasco Ave.,
Beechview, Pittsburg, Pa.

Dear Howard:

I think \$75. for the badge of the Sons of the Revolution is very high. They are not rare and now and then can be picked up at an auction sale or at a pawn shop. In times past we have had several.

They do come both in gold and I think gold plated. I really forget the original cost. Personally I would never think of paying much over \$18. or \$20. for these.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

May 5, 1937

Mr. H. D. Gibbs,
1400 Belasco Avenue,
Beechview,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

I am working on a catalogue of 20th Century coins and I may call upon you now and then for information.

Do you know if Hungary struck 2 filler pieces dated 1920 to 1921 and 20 filler pieces between 1922 and 26? If you have any of the dates, give me a rough description and also the metal they are in.

Have you in your collection any silver coins issued by the State of Borneo or British North Borneo? I understand that they were 25 cent pieces struck about 10 years ago.

What coins of Angola have you since 1900? I understand 500 and 200 reis pieces were struck in silver in 1904. Have you specimens of either or both of these?

Also, have you the five and 1 centavo pieces for Angola struck in bronze in 1922, 25 or 24? I also understand that there were pieces struck for St. Thomas and Prince Islands, which is a Portuguese Colony off Africa around 1927. Have you these coins also?

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks
encl.

HOWARD D. GIBBS
NUMISMATIST

1434 HARRIS AVE., CRAFTON, PITTSBURGH, PA.

May 19, 1937.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway and 155th Sts.,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Howland:

Please pardon the delay in answering your letter of May 5. I have simply been too busy to find time to check your inquiry.

I regret to say that I do not seem to be able to help much, principally due to the fact that some few years ago I realized that I had to restrict my range somewhat and practically discontinued the collecting of silver coins smaller than crown size.

Answering your questions, will say that I do not know of a 2 Filler piece of Hungary between 1920 and 1925, the latest one I have being 1917; nor do I know of a 20 Filler piece between 1922 and 1926, although I have those dated 1915 to 1920.

I do not have any silver coins of Borneo, nor do I find any reference in my files of having heard of one.

Your inquiry is not clear on the coins of Angola since 1900. I do not have a 200 or 500 Reis piece, but I have the following coins struck since 1900:

One and Five Cent
Ten, Twenty & Fifty Cent
Fifty Cent
One, Two & Four Macuta

1921 ✓

1922

1927 ✓

1927

Of St. Thomas and Princess Islands I have a 50 Cent piece 1929. ✓
Should you desire any of these coins sent to you or a more complete description, I will be only too glad to oblige.

With kindest personal regards,

Yours very truly,

HDG:DEG

Howard

May 25, 1937

Mr. H. D. Gibbs,
1400 Belasco Ave.,
Beechview,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

If you don't mind I would like to have you send me rubbings and also state the metal of the 1 and 5¢ pieces, 1921, of Angola; the 50¢ piece of 1927, and also the St. Thomas and Princess Islands of 1929. I think both of the latter are nickel.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

HOWARD D. GIBBS
NUMISMATIST

~~1434 HARRIS AVE., CRAFTON, PITTSBURGH, PA.~~

1400 Release Ave

June 4, 1937.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway and 155th Sts.,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Howland:

Sorry to be so long in answering your letter, but I have been very busy.

I enclose herewith rubbings of the several Angolo coins you asked about, and if there is any further information, or any way I can be of service to you, would be only too glad to have you call on me.

Suggest that if you are going to attempt to compile a list of the new issues that you let me have a few days to check your manuscript as I have a great many issues since the war that I have never seen published.

Yours very truly,

HDG:DEG
Encl.

Howard

June 9, 1937

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs,
1400 Belasco Avenue,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

Many thanks for the rubbings of Angola coins. The copper ones were absolutely new to me. Later on I may take advantage to your offer and send you some of the countries to check over. Of course, many countries I have absolute data on - others I am not sure of in every instance.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

HOWARD D. GIBBS

NUMISMATIST

1434 HARRIS AVE., CRAFTON, PITTSBURGH, PA.
1400 Belasco Ave.,

Sept 8, 1937

Dear Howland:

I am offered a Sealskin Note of Alaska as described below at \$17.50. I can't find any record and the piece is so perfect and new that I am afraid to pass on it without some information. If it were old and worn or discolored it might be different but it is too good to be true.

Can you help with any information.

Stuart Mosher has been telling me of the planned issue of modern coins. Don't forget to send me the proofs as I want to help in this most valuable publication.

I wish I was nearer New York as I have many opportunities to add to your fine collection but don't know just what you lack.

Have been fortunate in adding many new specimens particularly in the South Sea Island and Native African currencies which I know you do not go after to any extent but they interest me greatly.

Someday when you have time I wonder if you or your Librarian would let me have a brief list of the best and most useful works on foreign coins. What I mean is the one or two best works on each series. For instance I have LeMay on Siamese, Glover and Lockhart, LaCouprie on Chinese, etc. but what should I have on Portuguese, Russia, Spain, France, etc. This is one of the hardest questions for me to answer not having available your library to know just what is best.

I have never published the check list of Chinese Emperors and Nian Ho's which would be of great help to any one even an expert in classifying Chinese round coins. Is there any possibility of having the A. N. S. publish this? I care nothing about it myself as it is available to me but I wish every collector could have the same help.

Thanks for your help.

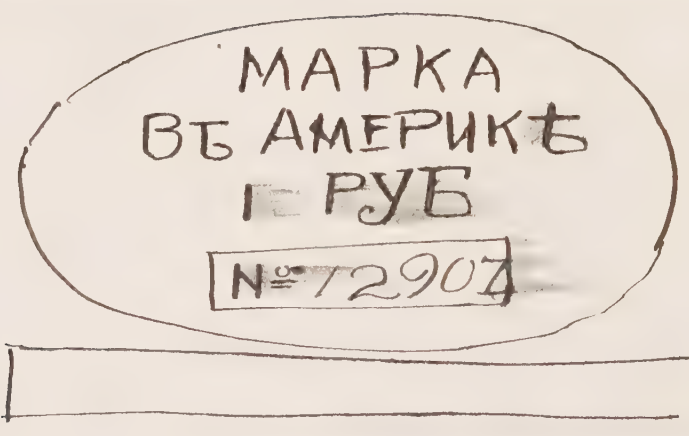
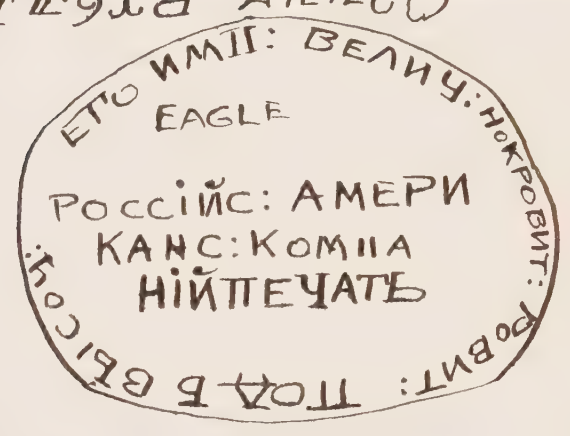
Regards

over
HD Gibbs
Howard

Transparent
yellow
Sealskin?

Reverse

ОДНУ РУБЛ.



Sept. 8, 1937

Dear Howard:

I have seen several of the so-called sealskin notes of Alaska, all of which were in pretty bad shape. We have one here 2-1/8" x 1-5/8", with two small holes in two of the corners. It is so used and dirty from much wear that nothing can be deciphered on it. Your piece may be perfectly genuine and carefully put away. I have never heard that these have been faked but there is no reason why they could not have been. Really I cannot give you any advice. You will have to judge more or less by the printing on the note whether it looks old or not.

I am now working on the M's in the 20th century production. If you really want to and have the time, I would be glad to send you on the manuscript for those countries that you might ~~help~~ on. Of course many of the countries I have right up to date from authentic sources. Would you rather see the manuscripts than later the galley proofs when everything will be in much of a rush?

I will answer your other questions about the list of books and the publishing of the Chinese Nien Ho later, as about everyone here is now on their vacation and as a matter of fact, I am also.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

HOWARD D. GIBBS
NUMISMATIST

~~1434 HARRIS AVE., CRAFTON, PITTSBURGH, PA.~~

H. D. GIBBS

1400 BELASCO AVE.
PITTSBURGH, - PA.

Sept. 12, 1937.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, betw. 155th & 156th Sts.,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Howland:

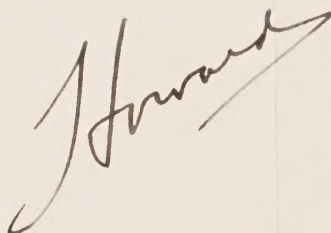
Thanks very much for your letter of September 8 and information contained therein on the Alaskan sealskin notes.

Regarding the coming publication on modern coins, I have only one thought in mind and that is to be of service, and I do not care whether you send me the manuscript or the galley proofs or neither. I merely want to lend any help I can.

Will be glad to send you the manuscript on the Chinese Nien Ho so that you can refresh your memory as to what it was.

Yours very truly,

HDG:DEG



*Boothroyd
1969 2 Centuries from*

November 22, 1937

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs,
1400 Belasco Ave.,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

You may have wondered why you have not heard from me but I have been putting off writing until the Publication Committee met again which they did the other day. I found out that they had already committed themselves to publishing so many manuscripts that they will consider nothing for over a year to come. There are also now several manuscripts in that cannot be published in a year. This was brought about because the President committed himself to publishing certain manuscripts which the Publication Committee did not know about.

I am still working on those 20th Century coins and a little later on I will send you notes for your corrections or additions on certain countries. As I am virtually using all of my notes now making notes from catalogues, magazines, etc. I cannot spare any just now but will avail myself of your kind promise to help a little later.

Do you by any chance have a 1919 two centavo piece of Portugal struck in iron? I find one listed but have never seen or heard of it. If so, could you give me a rubbing of it unless it is of the same type as the copper piece.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

December 13, 1937

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs,
1400 Belasco Ave.,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Gibbs:

I have now been working on the coins of Persia. Have you got much of an assortment of the Riza Khan? I would like to check up on these. I can send you my list or if you have not too many would you send me descriptions or rubbings of them? I am pretty near through the catalog with the exception of China which will be a headache.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW:j